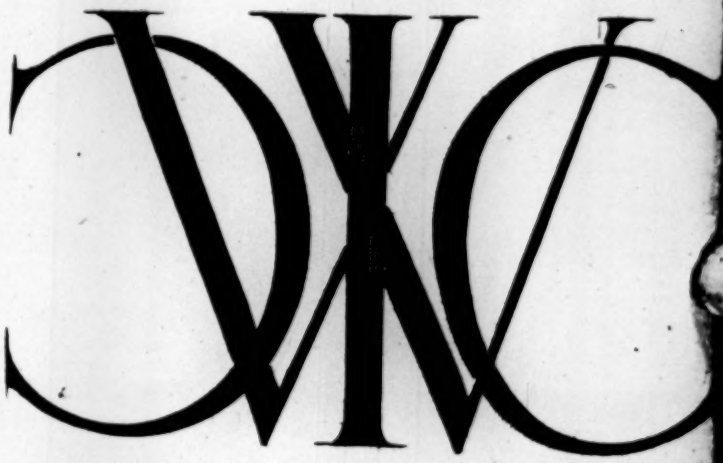
THE COMPLEAT ANGLER.

Being Instructions how to angle for a TROUT or GRAYLING in a clear Stream.

PART. II.



Qui mihi non credit, faciat licet ipse periclum:
Et fuerit scriptis æquior ille meis.

LONDON,
Printed for *Richard Marriott*, and *Henry Brome* in St. *Paul's* Church-yard. MDCLXXVI.

TO

My most Worthy

FATHER and FRIEND,

Mr. IZAAK WALTON

The Elder.

SIR,

BEing you were pleased some years past, to grant me your free leave to do what I have here attempted; and observing, you never retract any promise when made in favour even of your mea-

neſt friends; I accordingly expect to ſee theſe following particular Directions for the taking of a Trout, to wait upon your better and more general Rules for all ſorts of Angling: And, though mine be neither ſo perfect, ſo well digeſted, nor indeed ſo handſomely coucht as they might have been, in ſo long a time as ſince your leave was granted; yet, I dare affirm them to be generally true: And they had appeared too in ſomething a neater dreſs, but that I was ſurpriz'd with the ſuddain news of a ſuddain new Edition of your Compleat Angler; ſo that, having but a little more than ten days time to turn me in, and rub up my memory (for in truth I have not in all this long time, though

I have often thought on't, and almost as often resolv'd to go presently about it) I was forc't upon the instant to scribble what I here present you: which I have also endeavour'd to accommodate to your own Method. And, if mine be clear enough for the honest Brothers of the Angle readily to understand; (which is the only thing I aim at) then I have my end; and shall need to make no further Apology; a writing of this kind, not requiring (if I were Master of any such thing) any Eloquence to set it off, or recommend it; so that if you, in your better Judgment, or kindness rather, can allow it passable for a thing of this nature: You will then do me honour if the Cypher *fixt and carv'd in the front*

of

of my little fiſhing-houſe may be here explained: And, to permit me to attend you in publick, who in private, have ever been, am, and ever reſolve to be

Sir,

Your moſt affectionate

Son and Servant

Berisford 10th. of *March* 167½.

Charles Cotton.

THE COMPLEAT ANGLER; OR, The Contemplative Man's Recreation.

PART. II.

CHAP. I.

Piſcator Junior & Viator.

PISCAT. You are happily overtaken Sir; may a man be ſo bold as to enquire how far you travel this way?

Viator. Yes ſure Sir very freely; though it be a queſtion I cannot very well reſolve you; as not knowing my ſelf how far it is to *Aſhborn*, where I intend to night to take up my Inn.

Piſcat. Why then Sir, ſeeing I perceive you

to be a Stranger in these parts; I shall take upon me to inform you, that from the Town you last came through, call'd *Brelsford*, it is five miles, and you are not yet above half a mile on this side.

Viat. So much! I was told it was but ten miles from *Derby*, and methinks I have rode almost so far already.

Piscat. O Sir, find no fault with large measure of good Land, which *Derby-shire* abounds in, as much as most Counties of *England*.

Viat. It may be so, and good Land I confess affords a pleasant prospect: but by your good leave Sir, large measure of foul way is not altogether so acceptable.

Piscat. True Sir, but the foul way serves to justifie the fertility of the soyl; according to the Proverb: *There is good Land, where there is foul way*; and is of good use to inform you of the Riches of the Country you are come into, and of its continual Travel, and Traffick to the Country Town you came from; which is also very observable by the fulness of its Road, and the loaden Horses you meet every where upon the way.

Viat. well Sir, I will be content to think as well of your Country, as you would desire, and I shall have a great deal of reason both to think, and to speak very well of you, If I may obtain the happiness of your company to the fore-

forementioned place, provided your affairs lead you that way, and that they will permit you to ſlack your pace out of complacency to a Traveller utterly a Stranger in theſe parts, and who am ſtill to wander further out of my own knowledg.

Piſcat. Sir, you invite me to my own advantage, and I am ready to attend you: my way lying through that Town; but my buſineſs, that is, my home, ſome miles beyond it: however I ſhall have time enough to lodg you in your Quarters, and afterwards to perform my own Journey. In the mean time may I be ſo bold as to enquire the end of your Journey.

Viat. 'Tis into *Lancaſhire* Sir, and about ſome buſineſs of concern to a near Relation of mine: for I aſſure you, I do not uſe to take ſo long Journeys, as from *Eſſex* upon the ſingle account of pleaſure.

Piſcat. From thence Sir! I do not then wonder you ſhould appear diſſatisfied with the length of the Miles, and the foulneſs of the way: though I am ſorry you ſhould begin to quarrel with them ſo ſoon; for, believe me Sir, you will find the Miles much longer, and the way much worſe before you come to your Journies end.

Viat. Why truly Sir for that, I am prepar'd to expect the worſt; but methinks the way is

mended ſince I had the good fortune to fall into your good company.

Piſcat. You are not oblig'd to my company for that: but becauſe you are already paſt the worſt, and the greateſt part of your way to your Lodging.

Viat. I am very glad to hear it, both for the eaſe of my ſelf, and my Horſe; but eſpecially becauſe I may then expect a freer enjoyment of your converſation; though the ſhortneſs of the way will, I fear, make me loſe it the ſooner.

Piſcat. That Sir is not worth your care; and I am ſure you deſerve much better, for being content with ſo ill company: but we have already talkt away two Miles of your Journey; for from the Brook before us, that runs at the foot of this Sandy Hill, you have but three Miles to *Aſhborn*.

Viat. I meet every where in this Country with theſe little Brooks, and they look as if they were full of Fiſh; have they not Trouts in them?

Piſcat. That is a queſtion, which is to be excus'd in a Stranger as you are; otherwiſe, give me leave to tell you, it would ſeem a kind of affront to our Country, to make a doubt of what we pretend to be famous for, next, if not before, our Malt, Wool, Lead, and Cole; for you are to underſtand, that we think we have

as

as many fine Rivers, Rivulets, and Brooks, as any Country whatever, and they are all full of Trouts, and ſome of them the beſt (it is ſaid) by many degrees in *England*.

Viat. I was firſt Sir in love with you, and now ſhall be ſo enamour'd of your Country by this account you give me of it, as to wiſh my ſelf a *Derby-ſhire* Man, or at leaſt that I might live in it: for you muſt know I am a pretender to the Angle, and doubtleſs a Trout affords the moſt pleaſure to the Angler, of any ſort of Fiſh whatever; and the beſt Trouts, muſt needs make the beſt ſport: But this Brook, and ſome others I have met with upon this way, are too full of Wood for that recreation.

Piſcat. This Sir! why this, and ſeveral others like it, which you have paſt, and ſome that you are like to paſs, have ſcarce any name amongſt us: but we can ſhew you as fine Rivers, and as clear from wood, or any other encumbrance to hinder an Angler, as any you ever ſaw; and for clear, beautiful ſtreams, *Hantſhire* it ſelf, by Mr. *Izaak Walton's* good leave, can ſhew none ſuch; nor I think and Country in *Europe*.

Viat. You go far Sir in the praiſe of your Country Rivers, and I perceive have read Mr *Walton's Compleat Angler* by your naming of *Hantſhire*, and I pray what is your opinion of that Book?

Piſcat. My Opinion of Mr. *Walton's* Book is the ſame with every Man's, that underſtands any thing of the Art of Angling, that it is an excellent good one, and that the forementioned Gentleman underſtands as much of Fiſh, and Fiſhing as any Man living: but I muſt tell you further, that I have the happineſs to know his perſon, and to be intimately acquainted with him, and in him to know the worthieſt Man, and to enjoy the beſt, and the trueſt Friend any Man ever had: nay, I ſhall yet acquaint you further, that he gives me leave to call him Father, and I hope is not yet aſham'd to own me for his adopted Son.

Viat. In earneſt Sir I am raviſht to meet with a friend of Mr. *Izaak Walton's*, and one that does him ſo much right in ſo good and true a Character; for I muſt boaſt to you, that I have the good fortune to know him too, and came acquainted with him much after the ſame manner I do with you; that he was my Maſter who firſt taught me to love Angling, and then to become an Angler; and to be plain with you, I am the very Man decipher'd in his Book under the name of *Venator*, for I was wholly addicted to the Chace; till he taught me as good, a more quiet, innocent, and leſs dangerous diverſion.

Piſcat. Sir, I think my ſelf happy in your acquaintance, and before we part ſhall entreat leave

leave to embrace you; you have ſaid enough to recommend you to my beſt opinion; for my Father *Walton* will be ſeen twice in no Man's company he does not like, and likes none but ſuch as he believes to be very honeſt men, which is one of the beſt Arguments, or at leaſt of the beſt Teſtimonies I have, that I either am, or that he thinks me one of thoſe, ſeeing I have not yet found him weary of me.

Viat. You ſpeak like a true Friend, and in doing ſo render your ſelf worthy of his friendſhip. May I be ſo bold as to ask your name?

Piſcat. Yes ſurely Sir, and if you pleaſe a much nicer queſtion, my name is —— and I intend to ſtay long enough in your company, if I find you do not diſlike mine, to ask yours too. In the mean time, becauſe we are now almoſt at *Aſhborn*, I ſhall freely, and bluntly tell you, that I am a Brother of the Angle too, and peradventure can give you ſome inſtructions how to Angle for a Trout in a clear River, that my Father *Walton* himſelf will not diſapprove, though he did either purpoſely omit, or did not remember them, when you, and he ſate diſcourſing under the *Sycamore* Tree. And being you have already told me whether your Journey is intended, and that I am better acquainted with the Country than you are; I will heartily, and earneſtly entreat, you will not think of ſtaying at this Town: but go on with

me ſix Miles further to my Houſe, where you ſhall be extreamly welcom; it is directly in your way, we have day enough to perform our Journey, & as you like your entertainment, you may there repoſe your ſelf a day or two; or as many more as your occations will permit, to recompence the trouble of ſo much a longer Journey.

Viat. Sir, you ſurpriſe me with ſo friendly an invitation upon ſo ſhort acquaintance: but how advantagious ſoever it would be to me, and that my haſt perhaps is not ſo great, but it might diſpenſe with ſuch a divertiſement as I promiſe my ſelf in your Company; yet I cannot in modeſty accept your offer, & muſt therefore beg your pardon: I could otherwiſe, I confeſs be glad to wait upon you, if upon no other account but to talk of Mr. *I. Walton*, and to receive thoſe inſtructions you ſay you are able to give me for the deceiving a Trout; in which art I will not deny, but that I have an ambition to be one of the greateſt deceivers; though I cannot forbear freely to tell you, that I think it hard to ſay much more, than has been read to me upon that ſubject.

Piſcat. well Sir, I grant that too; but you muſt know that the variety of Rivers, require different ways of Angling: however you ſhall have the beſt Rules I am able to give, and I will tell you nothing I have not made my ſelf as certain of, as any Man can be in thirty years

experience

experience (for ſo long I have been a dabler in that art) and that if you pleaſe to ſtay a few days, you ſhall not in a very great meaſure ſee made good to you. But of that hereafter, and now, Sir, if I am not miſtaken I have half overcome you; and that I may wholly conquer that modeſty of yours, I will take upon me to be ſo familiar as to ſay, you muſt accept my invitation, which that you may the more eaſily be perſwaded to do, I will tell you that my Houſe ſtands upon the margin of one of the fineſt Rivers for Trouts, and grayling in *England*; that I have lately built a little Fiſhing Houſe upon it, dedicated to Anglers, over the door of which you will ſee the two firſt Letters of my Father *Walton's* name and mine twiſted in *Cypher*; * that you ſhall lye in the ſame Bed he has ſometimes been contented with, and have ſuch Country entertainment, as my Friends ſometimes accept, and be as welcome too, as the beſt Friend of them all.

* *as in the Title page.*

Viat. No doubt Sir, but my Maſter *Walton* found good reaſon to be ſatisfied with his entertainment in your Houſe; for you who are ſo friendly to a meer Stranger who deſerves ſo little, muſt needs be exceedingly kind and free to him who deſerves ſo much.

Piſcat. Believe me, no! and ſuch as are intimately acquainted with that Gentleman, know him

him to be a Man, who will not endure to be treated like a Stranger. So that his acceptation of my poor entertainments, has ever been a pure effect of his own humility, and good nature, and nothing elſe. But Sir, we are now going down the Spittle Hill into the Town, and therefore let me importune you ſuddainly to reſolve, and moſt earneſtly not to deny me.

Viat. In truth Sir, I am ſo overcome by your Bounty, that I find I cannot, but muſt render my ſelf wholly to be diſpos'd by you.

Piſcat. Why that's heartily, and kindly ſpoken, and I as heartily thank you; and being you have abandon'd your ſelf to my conduct, we will only call and drink a glaſs on Horſeback at the *Talbot*, and away.

Viat. I attend you, but what pretty River is this, that runs under this Stone-Bridg? has it a name?

Piſcat. Yes, 'Tis call'd *Henmore*, and has in it both Trout, and Grayling; but you will meet with one or two better anon. And ſo ſoon as we are paſt through the Town, I will endeavour by ſuch diſcourſe as beſt likes you to paſs away the time, till you come to your ill Quarters.

Viat. we can talk of nothing with which I ſhall be more delighted than of Rivers and Angling.

Piſcat. Let thoſe be the Subjects then, but

we

we are now come to the *Talbot*, what will you drink Sir, Ale, or Wine.

Viat. Nay, I am for the Country liquor, *Derby-ſhire* Ale, if you pleaſe; for a Man ſhould not methinks come from *London* to drink Wine in the Peak.

Piſcat. You are in the right; and yet let me tell you, you may drink worſe *French-wine* in many Taverns in *London*, than they have ſometimes at this Houſe. What hoe! bring us a Flaggon of your beſt Ale, and now Sir my ſervice to you, a good health to the honeſt Gentleman you know of, and you are welcome into the Peak.

Viat. I thank you Sir, and preſent you my ſervice again, and to all the honeſt Brothers of the Angle.

Piſcat. I'le pledg you Sir, ſo, there's for your Ale, and farewell. Come Sir, let us be going; for the ſun grows low, and I would have you look about you as you ride; for you will ſee an odd Country, and ſights, that will ſeem ſtrange to you.

CHAP.

CHAP. II.

PISCAT. So Sir, now we are got to the top of the Hill out of Town, look about you, and tell me how you like the Country.

Viat. Bleſs me! what Mountains are here! are we not in *Wales?*

Piſcat. No, but in almoſt as Mountainous a Country, and yet theſe Hills though high, bleak, and craggy, breed and feed good Beef, and Mutton above ground, and afford good ſtore of Lead within.

Viat. They had need of all thoſe commodities to make amends for the ill Land-ſchape: But I hope our way does not lye over any of theſe; for I dread a *precipice.*

Piſcat. Believe me but it does, and down one eſpecially, that will appear a little terrible to a Stranger; though the way is paſſable enough, and ſo paſſable, that we who are Natives of theſe Mountains, and acquainted with them, diſdain to alight.

Viat. I hope though that a Forraigner is priviledged to uſe his own diſcretion, and that I may have the liberty to entruſt my neck to the fidelity of my own feet, rather than to thoſe of my Horſe; for I have no more at home.

Piſca.

Piſcat. 'Twere hard elſe. But in the mean time I think 'twere beſt while this way is pretty even, to mend our pace, that we may be paſt that Hill I ſpeak of, to the end your apprehenſion may not be doubled for want of light to diſcern the eaſineſs of the deſcent.

Viat. I am willing to put forward as faſt as my Beaſt will give me leave; though I fear nothing in your Company. But what pretty River is this we are going into?

Piſcat. Why this Sir is called *Bently* Brook, and is full of very good Trout, and Grayling; but ſo encumbred with wood in many places, as is troubleſom to an Angler.

Viat. Here are the prettieſt Rivers, and the moſt of them in this Country that ever I ſaw; do you know how many you have in the Country?

Piſcat. I know them all, and they were not hard to reckon, were it worth the trouble; but the moſt conſiderable of them I will preſently name you. And to begin where we now are (for you muſt know we are now upon the very skirts of *Derby-ſhire*) we have firſt the River *Dove*, that we ſhall come to by and by, which divides the two Counties of *Derby*, and *Stafford* for many Miles together, and is ſo call'd from the ſwiftneſs of its current, and that ſwiftneſs occaſion'd by the declivity of its courſe, and by being ſo ſtraitned in that courſe betwixt

betwixt the Rocks; by which, and those very high ones, it is hereabout for four, or five Miles confin'd into a very narrow ſtream. A River that from a contemptible Fountain (which I can cover with my Hat) by the confluence of other Rivers, Rivulets, Brooks, and Rills, is ſwell'd, (before it fall into *Trent* a little below *Egginton*, (where it loſes the name,) to ſuch a breadth, and depth, as to be in moſt places navigable, were not the paſſage frequently interrupted with Fords, and Wires, and has as fertile Bancks, as any River in *England*, none excepted. And this River from its head for a Mile or two is a black water (as all the reſt of the *Derby-ſhire* Rivers of note, originally are, for they all ſpring from the Moſſes) but is in a few Miles travel ſo clarified by the addition of ſeveral clear, and very great ſprings (bigger than it ſelf) which guſh out of the Lime-ſtone Rocks, that before it comes to my Houſe, which is but ſix, or ſeven Miles from its ſource, you will find it one of the pureſt Chryſtalline ſtreams you have ſeen.

Viat. does *Trent* ſpring in theſe parts?

Piſcat. Yes in theſe parts; not in this County, but ſomewhere towards the upper end of *Stafford-ſhire*, I think not far from a place call'd *Trentham*, and thence runs down not far from *Stafford* to *Wolſly* Bridg, and waſhing the skirts and purlews of the Forreſt of *Needwood* runs down

down to *Burton* in the ſame County; thence it comes into this where we now are, and running by *Swarkſton*, and *Dunnington*, receives *Derwent* at *Wildon*, and ſo to *Nottingham*, thence to *Newark*, and by *Gainsborough*, to *Kingſton* upon *Hull*, where it takes the name of *Humber*, and thence falls into the Sea: but that the Map will beſt inform you.

Viat. Know you whence this River *Trent* derives its name?

Piſcat. No indeed, and yet I have heard it often diſcourſt upon, when ſome have given its denomination from the forenamed *Trentham*; though that ſeems rather a derivative from it; others have ſaid 'tis ſo call'd from thirty Rivers that fall into it, and there loſe their names, which cannot be neither, becauſe it carries that name from its very Fountain, before any other Rivers fall into it; others derive it from thirty ſeveral ſorts of Fiſh that breed there, and that is the moſt likely derivation: But be it how it will, it is doubtleſs one of the fineſt Rivers in the World, and the moſt abounding with excellent Salmon, and all ſorts of delicate Fiſh.

Viat. Pardon me Sir for tempting you into this digreſſion, and then proceed to your other Rivers; for I am mightily delighted with this diſcourſe.

Piſcat. It was no interruption, but a very ſea-

ſeaſonable queſtion; for *Trent* is not only one of our *Derby-ſhire* Rivers, but the chief of them, and into which all the reſt pay the Tribute of their names; which I had perhaps forgot to inſiſt upon, being got to the other end of the County, had you not awoke my memory. But I will now proceed, and the next River of note (for I will take them as they lye Eaſtward from us) is the River *Wye*; I ſay of note, for we have two leſſer betwixt us and it, namely *Lathkin*, and *Bradford*, of which *Lathkin* is by many degrees the pureſt, and moſt tranſparent ſtream, that I ever yet ſaw either at home or abroad, and breeds 'tis ſaid, the reddeſt, and the beſt Trouts in *England*; but neither of theſe are to be reputed Rivers, being no better than great ſprings. The River *Wye* then has its ſource near unto *Buxtons*, a Town ſome ten Miles from hence, famous for a warm Bath, and which you are to ride through in your way to *Mancheſter*, a black water too at the Fountain; but by the ſame reaſon with *Dove*, becomes very ſoon a moſt delicate clear River, and breeds admirable Trout, and Grayling, reputed by thoſe, who, by living upon its Banks are partial to it, the beſt of any, and this, running down by *Aſhford*, *Bakewell*, and *Haddon*; at a Town a little lower call'd *Rowſly* falls into *Derwent*, and there loſes its name. The next in order is *Derwent* a black water too, and that not only

from

from its Fountain, but quite through its progreſs, not having theſe Chryſtal ſprings to waſh and cleanſe it, which the two forementioned have; but abounds with Trout and Grayling (ſuch as they are) towards its ſource, and with *Salmon* below; and this River from the upper and utmoſt part of this County, where it ſprings, taking its courſe by *Chatsworth*, *Darly*, *Matlock*, *Derby*, *Burrow-Aſh*, and *Awberſon*, falls into *Trent* at a place call'd *Wildon*, and there loſes its name. The Eaſt ſide of this County of *Derby* is bounded by little inconſiderable Rivers, as *Awber*, *Eroways*, and the like, ſcarce worth naming, but Trouty too, and further we are not to enquire. But Sir I have carried you, as a Man may ſay by water, till we are now come to the deſcent of the formidable Hill I told you of, at the foot of which runs the River *Dove*, which I cannot but love above all the reſt, and therefore prepare your ſelf to be a little frighted.

Viat. Sir, I ſee you would fortifie me, that I ſhould not ſhame my ſelf: but I dare follow where you pleaſe to lead me, and I ſee no danger yet; for the deſcent methinks is thus far green, even, and eaſy.

Piſc. You will like it worſe preſently when you come to the brow of the Hill, and now we are there, what think you?

Viat. What do I think? why I think

it the ſtrangeſt place that ever ſure Men, and Horſes went down, and that (if there be any ſafety at all) the ſafeſt way is to alight.

Piſc. I think ſo too for you, who are mounted upon a Beaſt not acquainted with theſe ſlippery ſtones; and though I frequently ride down, I will alight too to bear you company, and to lead you the way, and if you pleaſe my Man ſhall lead your Horſe.

Viat. Marry Sir, and thank you too, for I am afraid I ſhall have enough to do to look to my ſelf; and with my Horſe in my hand ſhould be in a double fear, both of breaking my neck, and my Horſe's falling on me, for it is as ſteep as a penthouſe.

Piſc. To look down from hence it appears ſo, I confeſs, but the path winds and turns, and will not be found ſo troubleſom.

Viat. Would I were well down though! Hoiſt thee! there's one fair ſcape! theſe ſtones are ſo ſlippery I cannot ſtand! yet again! I think I were beſt lay my heeles in my neck, and tumble down.

Piſc. If you think your heeles will defend your neck, that is the way to be ſoon at the bottom; but give me your hand at this broad ſtone, and then the worſt is paſt.

Viat. I thank you Sir, I am now paſt it, I can go my ſelf. What's here the ſign of a Bridg? Do you uſe to Travel with wheel-barrows in this Country? *Piſc.*

Piſc. Not that I ever ſaw Sir, why do you ask that queſtion?

Viat. Becauſe this Bridg certainly was made for nothing elſe; why a mouſe can hardly go over it: 'Tis not two fingers broad.

Piſc. You are pleaſant, and I am glad to ſee you ſo: but I have rid over the Bridg many a dark night.

Viat. Why according to the *French* proverb, and 'tis a good one among a great many of worſe ſenſe and ſound that language abounds in, *Ce que Dieu garde, eſt bien gardé.* They, whom God takes care of are in ſafe protection: but, let me tell you, I would not ride over it for a thouſand pounds, nor fall off it for two; and yet I think I dare venture on foot, though if you were not by to laugh at me: I ſhould do it on all four.

Piſc. Well Sir, your mirth becomes you, and I am glad to ſee you ſafe over, and now you are welcome into *Stafford-ſhire.*

Viat. How *Stafford-ſhire*! what do I there trow! there is not a word of *Stafford-ſhire* in all my direction.

Piſc. You ſee you are betray'd into it; but it ſhall be in order to ſomething that will make amends; and 'tis but an ill Mile or two out of your way.

Viat. I believe all things Sir, and doubt nothing. Is this your beloved River *Dove.* 'Tis

clear, and ſwift indeed, but a very little one.

Piſc. You ſee it here at the worſt; we ſhall come to it anon again after two Miles riding, and ſo near as to lye upon the very Banks.

Viat. Would we were there once; but I hope we have no more of theſe Alpes to paſs over.

Piſc. No, no Sir, only this aſcent before you, which you ſee is not very uneaſy, and then you will no more quarrel with your way.

Viat. Well, if ever I come to *London* (of which many a Man there, if he were in my place would make a queſtion;) I will ſit down and write my Travels, and like *Tom Coriate* print them at my own charge. Pray what do you call this Hill we come down?

Piſc. We call it *Hanſon Toot.*

Viat. Why farewell *Hanſon Toot*, I'le no more on thee; I'le go twenty Miles about firſt: Puh. I ſweat, that my ſhirt ſticks to my back.

Piſc. Come Sir, now we are up the Hill, and now how do you?

Viat. Why very well I humbly thank you Sir, and warm enough I aſſure you. What have we here, a Church! As I'me an honeſt Man a very pretty Church! Have you Churches in this Country Sir?

Piſc.

Piſc. You ſee we have: but had you ſeen none, why ſhould you make that doubt Sir?

Viat. Why, if you will not be angry, I'le tell you, I thought my ſelf a Stage, or two beyond *Chriſtendom.*

Piſc. Come, come, wee'l reconcile you to our Country before we part with you; if ſhewing you good ſport with Angling will do't.

Viat. My reſpect to you, and that together may do much Sir; otherwiſe, to be plain with you, I do not find my ſelf much inclin'd that way.

Piſc. Well Sir, your raillery upon our Mountains has brought us almoſt home; and look you where the ſame River of *Dove* has again met us to bid you welcome, and to invite you to a diſh of Trouts to morrow.

Viat. Is this the ſame we ſaw at the foot of *Penmen-Maure?* It is much a finer River here.

Piſc. It will appear yet much finer to morrow. But look you Sir here appears the Houſe, that is now like to be your Inn, for want of a better.

Viat. It appears on a ſuddain, but not before 'twas lookt for, it ſtands prettily, and here's vvood about it too, but ſo young, as appears to be of your ovvn planting.

Piſc. It is ſo, vvill it pleaſe you to alight Sir; and novv permit me after all your pains and dangers to take you in my arms, and to aſſure you, that you are infinitely vvelcome.

Viat. I thank you Sir, and am glad with all my heart I am here, for, in down right truth, I am exceeding weary.

Piſc. You will ſleep ſo much the better; you ſhall preſently have a light ſupper, and to bed. Come, Sirs, lay the Cloth, and bring what you have preſently, and let the Gentleman's Bed be made ready in the mean time in my Father *Waltons* Chamber; and now Sir here is my ſervice to you, and once more welcome.

Viat. I marry Sir this glaſs of good Sack has refreſht me, and I'le make as bold with your meat; for the Trot has got me a good ſtomach.

Piſc. Come Sir fall to then, you ſee my little ſupper is always ready when I come home, and I'le make no Stranger of you.

Viat. That your Meal is ſo ſoon ready is a ſign your Servants know your certain hours, Sir; I confeſs I did not expect it ſo ſoon; but now 'tis here, you ſhall ſee I will make my ſelf no Stranger.

Piſc. Much good do your heart, and I thank you for that friendly word: and now Sir my ſervice to you in a Cup of *More-Lands* Ale:

for

for you are now in the *More-Lands*, but within a ſpit, and a ſtride of the peak; fill my Friend his Glaſs.

Viat. Believe me you have good Ale in the *More-Lands*; far better than that at *Aſhborn.*

Piſc. That it may ſoon be: for *Aſhborn* has (which is a kind of a Riddle) always in it the beſt Mault, and the worſt Ale in *England.* Come take away, and bring us ſome pipes, and a bottle of Ale, and go to your own Suppers. Are you for this diet Sir?

Viat. Yes Sir, I am for one pipe of Tobacco; and I perceive yours is very good by the ſmell.

Piſc. The beſt I can get in *London* I aſſure you: But Sir, now you have thus far comply'd with my deſigns, as to take a troubleſom Journey into an ill Country, only to ſatisfie me; how long may I hope to enjoy you?

Viat. Why truly Sir, as long as I conveniently can; and longer I think you would not have me.

Piſc. Not to your inconvenience by any means Sir, but I ſee you are weary, and therefore I will preſently wait on you to your Chamber, where take Counſel of your pillow, and to morrow reſolve me. Here take the lights, and pray follow them, Sir; Here you are like to lye, and now I have ſhew'd you

your Lodging, I beſeech you command any thing you want, and ſo I wiſh you good reſt.

Viat. Good night *Sir.*

CHAP. III.

PISC. Good morrow *Sir*, what up and dreſt ſo early?

Viat. Yes *Sir*, I have been dreſt this half hour; for I reſted ſo well, and have ſo great a mind either to take, or to ſee a Trout taken in your fine River, that I could no longer lye a bed.

Piſc. I am glad to ſee you ſo brisk this morning, and ſo eager of ſport; though I muſt tell you, this day proves ſo calm, and the Sun riſes ſo bright, as promiſes no great ſucceſs to the Angler: but however we'l try, and one way or other we ſhall ſure do ſomething. What will you have to your breakfaſt, or what will you drink this Morning.

Viat. For Breakfaſt I never eat any, and for Drink am very indifferent; but if you pleaſe to call for a Glaſs of Ale, I'me for you; and let it be quickly if you pleaſe: for I long to ſee the little Fiſhing-houſe you ſpoke of, and to be at my Leſſon.

Piſc.

Piſc. Well *Sir*, You ſee the Ale is come without Calling; for though I do not know yours, my people know my diet, which is always one Glaſs ſo ſoon as I am dreſt, and no more till Dinner, and ſo my Servants have ſerved you.

Viat. My thanks, and now if you pleaſe let us look out this fine morning.

Piſc. With all my heart, Boy take the Key of my Fiſhing-houſe, and carry down thoſe two Angle-Rods in the Hall window thither, with my Fiſh-pannier, Pouch, and landing Net, and ſtay you there till we come. Come *Sir* we'l walk after, where by the way I expect you ſhould raiſe all the exceptions againſt our Country you can.

Viat. Nay *Sir*, do not think me ſo ill natur'd, nor ſo uncivil, I only made a little bold with it laſt night to divert you, and was only in jeaſt.

You were then in as good earneſt as I am now with you: but had you been really angry at it, I could not blame you: For, to ſay the truth, it is not very taking at firſt ſight: But look you, *Sir*, now you are abroad, does not the Sun ſhine as bright here as in *Eſſex*, *Middleſex*, or *Kent*, or any of your Southern Countries?

Viat. 'Tis a delicate Morning indeed, and I now think this a marvellous pretty place.

Piſc.

Piſc. Whether you think ſo or no, you cannot oblige me more than to ſay ſo; and thoſe of my friends who know my humour, and are ſo kind as to comply with it, uſually flatter me that way. But look you *Sir*, now you are at the brink of the Hill, how do you like my River, the Vale it winds through like a Snake, and the ſcituation of my little Fiſhing-houſe?

Viat. Truſt me 'tis all very fine, and the houſe ſeems at this diſtance a neat building.

Piſc. Good enough for that purpoſe; and here is a bowling Green too, cloſe by it, ſo though I am my ſelf no very good bowler, I am n t totally devoted to my own pleaſure; but that I have alſo ſome regard to other men's. And now *Sir* you are come to the door, pray walk in, and there we will ſit, and talk as long as you pleaſe.

Viat. Stay, what's here over the door? *Piſcatoribus ſacrum.* * Why then I perceive I have ſome Title here, for I am one of them, though one of the worſt, and here below it is the Cifer too you ſpoke of, and 'tis prettily contriv'd. Has my Maſter *Walton* ever been here to ſee it; for it ſeems new built?

* *There is under this* Motto, *the* Cifer *mentioned in the Title Page and ſome part of the* Fiſhing-houſe *has been diſcrib'd; but, the pleaſantneſs of the River, Mountains, and Meadows about it, cannot; unleſs Sir* Philip Sidney, *or Mr.* Cotton's Father *were again alive to do it.*

Piſc.

Piſc. Yes he ſaw it cut in the ſtone before it was ſet up; but never in the poſture it now ſtands: for the houſe was but building when he was laſt here, and not rais'd ſo high as the Arch of the dore, and I am afraid he will not ſee it yet; for he has lately writ me word he doubts his coming down this Summer, which I do aſſure you was the worſt news he could poſſibly have ſent me.

Viat. Men muſt ſometimes mind their affairs to make more room for their pleaſures; and 'tis odds he is as much diſpleas'd with the buſineſs, that keeps him from you, as you are that he comes not. But I am the moſt pleaſed with this little houſe of any thing I ever ſaw: It ſtands in a kind of *Peninſula* too, with a delicate clear River about it. I dare hardly go in, leſt I ſhould not like it ſo well within as without; but by your leave, I'le try. Why, this is better and better, fine lights, finely wainſcoted, and all exceeding neat, with a Marble Table and all in the middle!

Piſc. Enough, *Sir*, enough, I have laid open to you the part where I can worſt defend my ſelf, and now you attaque me there. Come Boy ſet two Chairs, and whilſt I am taking a Pipe of Tobacco, which is alwaies my Breakfaſt, we will, if you pleaſe, talk of ſome other Subject.

Viat.

Viat. None fitter then *Sir* for the time and place, than those Instructions you promis'd.

Pisc. I begin to doubt, by something I discover in you, whether I am able to instruct you, or no; though, if you are really a stranger to our clear *Northern* Rivers I still think I can; and therefore, since it is yet too early in the morning at this time of the year, to day being but the Seventh of *March*, to cast a Flie upon the water, if you will direct me what kind of Fishing for a Trout I shall read you a Lecture on, I am willing and ready to obey you.

Viat. Why *Sir*, if you will so far oblige me, and that it may not be too troublesome to you, I would entreat you would run through the whole body of it; and I will not conceal from you, that I am so far in love with you, your courtesie, and pretty Moreland Seat, as to resolve to stay with you long enough by Intervals (for I will not oppress you) to hear all you can say upon that Subject.

Pisc. You cannot oblige me more than by such a promise, and therefore without more Ceremony I will begin to tell you; that my Father *Walton* having read to you before, it would look like a presumption in me, and peradventure would do so in any other man, to pretend to give Lessons for angling after him, who I do really believe understands as much of it, at least as any man in *England*, did I not pre-

acquaint

acquaint you, that I am not tempted to it by any vain opinion of my ſelf, that I am able to give you better directions; but having from my Childhood purſued the recreation of angling in very clear Rivers (truly I think by much (ſome of them at leaſt) the cleareſt in this Kingdom) and the manner of Angling here with us by reaſon of that exceeding clearneſs, being ſomething different from the method commonly us'd in others, which by being not near ſo bright, admit of ſtronger tackle, and allow a nearer approach to the ſtream; I may peradventure give you ſome Inſtructions, that may be of uſe even in your own Rivers, and ſhall bring you acquainted with more Flies, and ſhew you how to make them, and with what dubbing too, than he has taken notice of in his *Compleat Angler.*

I beſeech you *Sir* do, and if you will lend me your Steel, I will light a Pipe the while, for that is commonly my Breakfaſt in a morning too.

CHAP.

CHAP. IV.

PISC. Why then *Sir*, to begin methodically, as a Maſter in any Art ſhould do (and I will not deny, but that I think my ſelf a Maſter in this) I ſhall divide Angling for Trout or Grayling into theſe three ways,

At the Top,
At the bottom, and
In the Middle.

Which three ways, though they are all of them (as I ſhall hereafter endeavour to make it appear) in ſome ſort common to both thoſe kinds of Fiſh; yet are they not ſo generally and abſolutely ſo, but that they will neceſſarily require a diſtinction, which in due place I will alſo give you.

That which we call Angling at the top, is with a Flie;
At the bottom with a ground-bait.
In the middle with a Minnow, or Ground-bait.

Angling

Angling at the Top is of two ſorts,

With a quick Flie:
or,
With an artificial Flie.

That we call Angling at the bottom is alſo of two ſorts,

By hand:
or,
With a Cork, or Float.

That we call Angling in the middle is alſo of two ſorts.

With a Minnow for a Trout:
or,
With a Ground-bait for a Grayling.

Of all which ſeveral ſorts of Angling, I will, if you can have the patience to hear me, give you the beſt account I can.

Viat. The trouble will be yours, and mine the pleaſure and the obligation: I beſeech you therefore to proceed.

Piſc. Why then firſt of Flie-Fiſhing.

CHAP.

CHAP. V.

Of Flie-Fiſhing.

PISC. Flie-Fiſhing or Fiſhing at the top, is, as I ſaid before, of two ſorts,

With a natural and living Flie:
or,
With an artificial and made Flie.

Firſt then of the natural Flie; of which we generally uſe but two ſorts, and thoſe but in the two months of *May* and *June* only, namely the *Green Drake*, and the *Stone-Flie*; though I have made uſe of a third that way, called the *Chamblet-Flie* with very good ſucceſs for *Grayling*, but never ſaw it angled with by any other after this manner, my Maſter only excepted, who did many years ago, and was one of the beſt Anglers, that ever I knew.

Theſe are to be angled with, with a ſhort Line, not much more than half the length of your Rod, if the air be ſtill; or with a longer very near, or all out as long as your Rod, if you have any wind to carry it from you, and this way of Fiſhing we call *Daping*, *Dabbing* or *Dibling*, wherein you are always to have your Line

Line flying before you up or down the River as the wind ſerves, and to angle as near as you can to the bank of the ſame ſide whereon you ſtand, though where you ſee a Fiſh riſe near you, you may guide your quick Flie over him, whether in the middle, or on the contrary ſide, and if you are pretty well out of ſight, either by kneeling, or the Interpoſition of a bank, or buſh, you may almoſt be ſure to raiſe, and take him too, if it be preſently done; the Fiſh will otherwiſe peradventure be remov'd to ſome other place, if it be in the ſtill deeps, where he is always in motion, and roving up and down to look for prey, though in a ſtream, you may alwaies almoſt, eſpecially if there be a good ſtone near, find him in the ſame place. Your Line ought in this Caſe to be three good hairs next the hook, both by reaſon you are in this kind of angling, to expect the biggeſt Fiſh, and alſo that wanting length to give him Line after he is ſtruck, you muſt be forc't to tugg for't; to which I will alſo add, that not an Inch of your Line being to be ſuffered to touch the water in dibbling; it may be allow'd to be the ſtronger. I ſhould now give you a Deſcription of thoſe Flies, their ſhape and colour, and then give you an account of their breeding, and withal ſhew you how to keep and uſe them; but ſhall defer that to their proper place and ſeaſon.

Viat. In earneſt, Sir, you diſcourſe very rationally of this affair, and I am glad to find my ſelf miſtaken in you; for in plain truth I did not expect ſo much from you.

Piſc. Nay Sir, I can tell you a great deal more than this, and will conceal nothing from you. But I muſt now come to the ſecond way of angling at the top, which is with an artificial Flie, which alſo I will ſhew you how to make before I have done, but firſt ſhall acquaint you, that with this you are to angle with a Line longer by a yard and a half, or ſometimes two yards than your Rod, and with both this, and the other in a ſtill day in the ſtreams, in a breeze, that curles the water in the ſtill deeps, where (excepting in *May* and *June*, that the beſt Trouts will lye in ſhallow ſtreams to watch for prey, and even then too) you are like to hit the beſt Fiſh.

For the length of your Rod you are always to be govern'd by the breadth of the River you ſhall chuſe to angle at; and for a Trout River, one of five or ſix yards long is commonly enough, and longer (though never ſo neatly and artificially made) it ought not to be, if you intend to Fiſh at eaſe, and if otherwiſe, where lies the ſport?

Of theſe, the beſt that ever I ſaw are made in *York-ſhire*, which are all of one piece; that is to ſay, of ſeveral, ſix, eight, ten or twelve

twelve pieces, ſo neatly piec't, and ty'd together with fine thred below, and Silk above, as to make it taper, like a ſwitch, and to ply with a true bent to your hand; and theſe are too light, being made of Fir wood, for two or three lengths, neareſt to the hand, and of other wood nearer to the top, that a Man might very eaſily manage the longeſt of them that ever I ſaw, with one hand; and theſe when you have given over Angling for a ſeaſon, being taken to pieces, and laid up in ſome dry place, may afterwards be ſet together again in their former poſtures, and will be as ſtrait, ſound, and good as the firſt hour they were made, and being laid in Oyl and colour according to your Maſter *Waltons* direction, will laſt many years.

The length of your line, to a Man that knows how to handle his Rod, and to caſt it, is no manner of encumbrance, excepting in woody places, and in landing of a Fiſh, which every one that can afford to Angle for pleaſure, has ſome body to do for him, and the length of line is a mighty advantage to the fiſhing at diſtance; and to fiſh *fine, and far off* is the firſt and principal Rule for Trout Angling.

Your Line in this caſe ſhould never be leſs, nor ever exceed two hairs next to the hook, for one (though ſome I know will pretend to more Art, than their fellows) is indeed too

few, the leaſt accident, with the fineſt hand being ſufficient to break it: but he that cannot kill a Trout of twenty inches long with two, in a River clear of wood and weeds, as this and ſome others of ours are, deſerves not the name of an Angler.

Now to have your whole line as it ought to be, two of the firſt lengths, neareſt the hook, ſhould be of two hairs a piece, the next three lengths above them of three, the next three above them of four, and ſo of five, and ſix, and ſeven, to the very top: by which means your Rod and tackle will in a manner be taper from your very hand to your hook; your line will fall much better and ſtraiter, and caſt your Flie to any certain place to which the hand and eye ſhall direct it, with leſs weight and violence, that would otherwiſe circle the water, and fright away the fiſh.

In caſting your line, do it always before you, and ſo that your flie may firſt fall upon the water, and as little of your line with it as is poſſible, though if the vvind be ſtiff, you will then of neceſſity be compell'd to drown a good part of your line to keep your flie in the water: and in caſting your flie, you muſt aim at the further, or nearer Bank, as the wind ſerves your turn, which alſo vvill be with, and againſt you on the ſame ſide ſeveral times in an hour, as the River vvinds in its courſe, and you

you will be forc't to Angle up and down by turns accordingly; but are to endeavour, as much as you can, to have the wind evermore on your back, and always be ſure to ſtand as far off the Bank as your length will give you leave when you throw to the contrary ſide, though when the wind will not permit you ſo to do, and that you are conſtrain'd to Angle on the ſame ſide whereon you ſtand, you muſt then ſtand on the very brink of the River, and caſt your Flie at the utmoſt length of your Rod and Line, up or down the River as the gale ſerves.

It only remains, touching your Line, to enquire whether your two hairs next to the hook, are better twiſted, or open; and for that, I ſhould declare that I think the open way the better, becauſe it makes leſs ſhew in the water, but that I have found an inconvenience, or two, or three, that have made me almoſt weary of that way; of which one is, that without diſpute they are not ſo ſtrong twiſted, as open; another, that they are not eaſily to be faſtned of ſo exact an equal length in the arming, that the one will not cauſe the other to bagge, by which means a Man has but one hair, upon the matter, to truſt to; and the laſt is, that theſe looſe flying hairs are not only more apt to catch upon every twig, or bent they meet with; but moreover the

hook, in falling upon the water, will very often rebound, and fly back betwixt the hairs, and there ſtick (which in a rough water eſpecially, is not preſently to be diſcern'd by the Angler) ſo as the point of the hook ſhall ſtand revers't, by which means your Flie ſwims backward, makes a much greater circle in the water, and till taken home to you, and ſet right, will never raiſe any Fiſh, or if it ſhould, I am ſure, but by a very extraordinary chance, can hit none.

Having done with both theſe ways of fiſhing at the top; the length of your Rod, and Line and all: I am next to teach you how to make a Flie; and afterwards of what dubbing you are to make the ſeveral Flies I ſhall hereafter name to you.

In making a Flie then (which is not a Hackle or Palmer Flie for of thoſe, and their ſeveral kinds we ſhall have occaſion to ſpeak every Month in the Year) you are firſt to hold your hook faſt betwixt the fore finger and thumb of your left hand, with the back of the ſhanck upwards, and the point towards your fingers end; then take a ſtrong ſmall ſilk of the colour of the Flie you intend to make, wax it well with wax of the ſame colour too (to which end you are always (by the way) to have wax of all colours about you) and draw it betwixt your finger and thumb, to the head

of

of the ſhanck, and then whip it twice or thrice about the bare hook, which, you muſt know, is done, both to prevent ſlipping, and alſo that the ſhanck of the hook may not cut the hairs of your Towght, which ſometimes it will otherwiſe do) which being done, take your Line, and draw it likewiſe betwixt your finger and thumb, holding the Hook ſo faſt, as only to ſuffer it to paſs by, untill you have the knot of your Towght almoſt to the middle of the ſhanck of your hook, on the inſide of it, then whip your ſilk twice or thrice about both hook and Line, as hard as the ſtrength of the ſilk will permit, which being done, ſtrip the feather for the wings proportionable to the bigneſs of your Flie, placing that ſide downwards, which grew uppermoſt before, upon the back of the hook, leaving ſo much only as to ſerve for the length of the wing of the point of the plume, lying revers't from the end of the ſhanck upwards, then whip your ſilk twice, or thrice about the root end of the feather, hook, and towght, which being done clip off the root end of the feather cloſe by the arming, and then whip the ſilk faſt and firm about the hook, and tought untill you come to the bend of the hook: but not further (as you do at *London*; and ſo make a very unhandſom, and, in plain *Engliſh*, a very unnatural and ſhapeleſs Flie) which being done, cut

away the end of your tought,and faſten it,and then take your dubbing which is to make the body of your Flie, as much as you think convenient, and holding it lightly, with your hook, betwixt the finger, and thumb of your left hand, take your ſilk with the right, and twiſting it betwixt the finger and thumb of that hand, the dubbing will ſpin it ſelf about the ſilk, which when it has done,whip it about the arm'd hook backward, till you come to the ſetting on of the wings; and then take the feather for the wings, and divide it equally into two parts, and turn them back towards the bend of the Hook, the one on the one ſide, and the other on the other of the ſhanck, holding them faſt in that poſture betwixt the fore finger, and thumb of your left hand, which done, warp them ſo down, as to ſtand, and ſlope towards the bend of the hook, and having warpt up to the end of the ſhanck,hold the Flie faſt betwixt the finger and thumb of your left hand, and then take the ſilk betwixt the finger, and thumb of your right hand, and where the warping ends, pinch or nip it with your thumb nail againſt your finger, and ſtrip away the remainder of your dubbing from the ſilk,and then with the bare ſilk whip it once or twice about,make the wings to ſtand in due order, faſten, and cut it off; after which with the point of a needle raiſe up the dubbing gently

gently from the warp, twitch off the ſuperfluous hairs of your dubbing, leave the wings of an equal length (your Flie will never elſe ſwim true) and the work is done. And this vvay of making a Flie (vvhich is certainly the beſt of all other) vvas taught me by a Kinsman of mine, one Captain *Henry Jackſon*, a near neighbour, an admirable Flie Angler, by many degrees the beſt Flie maker, that ever I yet met with. And now that I have told you how a Flie is to be made, you ſhall preſently ſee me make one, vvith vvhich you may peradventure take a Trout this morning, notvvithſtanding the unlikelineſs of the day; for it is now nine of the Clock, and Fiſh vvill begin to riſe, if they vvill riſe to day; I will vvalk along by you, and look on, and after dinner I vvill proceed in my lecture of Flie-Fiſhing.

Viat. I confeſs I long to be at the River, and yet I could ſit here all day to hear you: but ſome of the one, and ſome of the other will do well: and I have a mighty ambition to take a Trout in your River *Dove*.

Piſc. I vvarrant you ſhall: I would not for more, than I will ſpeak of but you ſhould, ſeeing I have ſo extoll'd my River to you: nay I vvill keep you here a Month, but you ſhall have one good day of ſport before you go.

Viat. You vvill find me I doubt too tracta-

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ble that vvay; for in good earneſt, if buſineſs vvould give me leave, and that if it vvere fit, I could find in my heart to ſtay with you for ever.

Piſc. I thank you *Sir*, for that kind expreſſion, and now let me look out my things to make this flie.

CHAP. VI.

PISC. Boy, come give me my dubbing bagg here preſently; and now Sir, ſince I find you ſo honeſt a man, I will make no ſcruple to lay open my Treaſure before you.

Viat. Did every any one ſee the like! What a heap of Trumpery is here! certainly never an Angler in *Europe* has his ſhop half ſo well furniſht, as you have.

Piſc. You perhaps may think now, that I rake together this Trumpery, as you call it, for ſhew only, to the end that ſuch as ſee it (which are not many I aſſure you) may think me a great Maſter in the Art of angling: but let me tell you here are ſome colours (as contemptible as they ſeem here) that are very hard to be got, and ſcarce any one of them, which

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if it ſhould be loſt, I ſhould not miſs, and be concern'd about the loſs of it too, once in the year; but look you, Sir, amongſt all theſe I will chuſe out theſe two colours only, of which this is Bears-hair, this darker no great matter what; but I am ſure I have kill'd a great deal of Fiſh with it; and with one or both of theſe you ſhall take Trout or Grayling this very day, notwithſtanding all diſadvantages, or my Art ſhall fail me.

Viat. You promiſe comfortably, and I have a great deal of reaſon to believe every thing you ſay; but I wiſh the Flie were made, that we were at it.

Piſc. That will not be long in doing: and pray obſerve then. You ſee firſt how I hold my hook, and thus I begin. Look you here are my firſt two or three whips about the bare hook, thus I joyn hook and line, thus I put on my wings, thus I twirle and lap on my dubbing, thus I work it up towards the head, thus I part my wings, thus I nip my ſuperfluous dubbing from my ſilk, thus faſten, thus trim and adjuſt my Flie, and there's a Flie made, and now how do you like it?

Viat. In earneſt, admirably well, and it perfectly reſembles a Flie; but we about *London* make the bodies of our Flies both much bigger and longer, ſo long as even almoſt to the very beard of the Hook.

Piſc.

Piſc. I know it very well, and had one of thoſe Flies given me by an honeſt Gentleman, who came with my Father *Walton* to give me a Viſit, which (to tell you the truth) I hung in my parlour Window to laugh at: but *Sir*, you know the Proverb, *They who go to* Rome, *muſt do as they at* Rome *do*; and believe me you muſt here make your Flies after this faſhion, or you will take no Fiſh. Come I will look you out a Line, and you ſhall put it on, and try it. There *Sir*, now I think you are fitted, and now beyond the farther end of the walk you ſhall begin, I ſee at that bend of the water above, the air criſps the water a little, knit your Line firſt here, and then go up thither, and ſee what you can do.

Viat. Did you ſee that *Sir?*

Piſc. Yes, I ſaw the Fiſh, and he ſaw you too, which made him turn ſhort, you muſt fiſh further off, if you intend to have any ſport here, this is no *New-River* let me tell you. That was a good Trout believe me, did you touch him?

Viat. No, I would I had, we would not have parted ſo. Look you there was another; this is an excellent Flie.

Piſc. That Flie I am ſure would kill Fiſh, if the day were right; but they only chew at it I ſee, and will not take it. Come *Sir*, let us return back to the Fiſhing-houſe; this ſtill water

ter I ſee will not do our buſineſs to day; you ſhall now, if you pleaſe, make a Flie your ſelf, and try what you can do in the ſtreams with that, and I know a Trout taken with a Flie of your own making will pleaſe you better than twenty with one of mine. Give me that Bag again, *Sirrah*; look you *Sir*, there is a hook, tought, ſilk, and a feather for the wings, be doing with thoſe, and I will look you out a Dubbing, that I think will do.

Viat. This is a very little hook.

Piſc. That may ſerve to inform you, that it is for a very little Flie, and you muſt make your wings accordingly; for as the caſe ſtands it muſt be a little Flie, and a very little one too, that muſt do your buſineſs. Well ſaid! believe me you ſhift your fingers very handſomely; I doubt I have taken upon me to teach my Maſter. So here's your dubbing now.

Viat. This dubbing is very black.

Piſc. It appears ſo in hand; but ſtep to the doors and hold it up betwixt your eye and the Sun, and it will appear a ſhining red; let me tell you never a man in *England* can diſcern the true colour of a dubbing any way but that, and therefore chuſe always to make your Flies on ſuch a bright Sun-ſhine day as this, which alſo you may the better do, becauſe it is worth nothing to fiſh in, here put it on, and be ſure to make the body of your Flie as ſlender as you can.

can. Very good! Upon my word you have made a marvellous handſom Flie.

Viat. I am very glad to hear it; 'tis the firſt that ever I made of this kind in my life.

Piſc. Away, away! You are a Doctor at it! but I will not commend you too much, leſt I make you proud. Come put it on, and you ſhall now go downward to ſome ſtreams betwixt the rocks below the little foot bridg you ſee there, and try your Fortune. Take heed of ſlipping into the water as you follow me under this rock: So now you are over, and now throw in.

Viat. This is a fine ſtream indeed: There's one! I have him!

Piſc. And a precious catch you have of him; pull him out! I ſee you have a tender hand: This is a diminutive Gentleman, e'en throw him in again, and let him grow till he be more worthy your anger.

Viat. Pardon me, *Sir*, all's Fiſh that comes to'th' hook with me now. Another!

Piſc. And of the ſame ſtanding.

Viat. I ſee I ſhall have good ſport now: Another! and a Grayling. Why you have Fiſh here at will.

Piſc. Come, come, croſs the Bridge, and go down the other ſide lower, where you will find finer ſtreams, and better ſport I hope than this

this. Look you *Sir*, here is a fine ſtream now, you have length enough, ſtand a little further off, let me entreat you, and do but Fiſh this ſtream like an Artiſt, and peradventure a good Fiſh may fall to your ſhare. How now! what is all gone?

Viat. No, I but touch't him; but that was a Fiſh worth taking.

Piſc. Why now let me tell you, you loſt that Fiſh by yout own fault, and through your own eagerneſs and haſte; for you are never to offer to ſtrike a good Fiſh, if he do not ſtrike himſelf, till firſt you ſee him turn his head after he has taken your Flie, and then you can never ſtrain your tackle in the ſtriking, if you ſtrike with any manner of moderation. Come throw in one again, and fiſh me this ſtream by inches; for I aſſure you here are very good Fiſh, both Trout and Grayling, lie here; and at that great ſtone on the other ſide, 'tis ten to one a good Trout gives you the meeting.

Viat. I have him now, but he is gone down towards the bottom, I cannot ſee what he is; yet he ſhould be a good Fiſh by his weight; but he makes no great ſtir.

Piſc. Why then, by what you ſay, I dare venture to aſſure you, 'tis a Grayling, who is one of the deadeſt hearted Fiſhes in the world, and the bigger he is the more eaſily taken. Look you, now you ſee him plain; I told you what he

he was, bring hither that landing net, Boy, and now *Sir*, he is your own; and believe me a good one, ſixteen Inches long I warrant him, I have taken none ſuch this year.

Viat. I never ſaw a Grayling before look ſo black.

Piſc. Did you not? Why then let me tell you, that you never ſaw one before in right ſeaſon: for then a Grayling is very black about his head, guills, and down his back, and has his Belly of a dark grey, dappled with black ſpots, as you ſee this is, and I am apt to conclude, that from thence he derives his name of *Umber*. Though I muſt tell you this Fiſh is paſt his prime, and begins to decline, and was in better ſeaſon at Chriſtmas than he is now. But move on, for it grows towards dinner-time, and there is a very great and fine ſtream below, under that Rock, that fills the deepeſt pool in all the River, where you are almoſt ſure of a good Fiſh.

Viat. Let him come, I'le try a fall with him; but I had thought, that the Grayling had been always in ſeaſon with the Trout, and had come in, and gone out with him.

Oh no! aſſure your ſelf a Grayling is a winter-fiſh: but ſuch a one as would deceive any but ſuch as know him very well indeed; for his fleſh, even in his worſt ſeaſon, is ſo firm, and will ſo eaſily calver, that in plain truth he

is

is very good meat at all times; but in his perfect ſeaſon (which, by the way, none but an overgrown Grayling will ever be) I think him ſo good a fiſh, as to be little inferiour to the beſt Trout that ever I taſted in my life.

Viat. Here's another skip-jack, and I have tais'd five or ſix more at leaſt whilſt you were ſpeaking: Well, go thy way little *Dove!* thou art the fineſt River, that ever I ſaw, and the fulleſt of fiſh. Indeed, *Sir*, I like it ſo well, that I am afraid you will be troubled with me once a year, ſo long as we two live.

Piſc. I am afraid I ſhall not *Sir*; but were you once here a *May* or a *June*, if good ſport would tempt you, I ſhould then expect you would ſometimes ſee me; for you would then ſay it were a fine River indeed, if you had once ſeen the ſport at the height.

Viat. Which I will do, if I live, and that you pleaſe to give me leave, there was one, and there another.

Piſc. And all this in a ſtrange River, and with a Flie of your own making! vvhy vvhat a dangerous man are you!

Viat. I, *Sir*, but vvho taught me? and as *Dametas* ſays by his man *Dorus*, ſo you may ſay by me,

If my man ſuch praiſes have,
What then have I, that taught the Knave?

But vvhat have we got here? A Rock ſpringing up in the middle of the River! this is one of the oddeſt ſights, that ever I ſaw.

Piſc. Why, *Sir*, from that *Pike* †, that you ſee ſtanding up there diſtant from the rock, this is call'd *Pike-Pool:* and young Mr. *Izaac Walton* was ſo pleas'd with it, as to draw it in Landſchape in black and white in a blank Book I have at home, as he has done ſeveral proſpects of my houſe alſo, which I keep for a memorial of his favour, and will ſhew you, when we come up to dinner.

† *'Tis a Rock, in the fashion of a* Spire-Steeple; *and, almost as big. It stands in the midst of the River* Dove; *and not far from Mr.* Cotton's *house, below which place this delicate River takes a swift Carere betwixt many mighty Rocks, much higher and bigger than St* Pauls Church, *before 'twas burnt. And this* Dove *being oppos'd by one of the highest of them, has at last, forc't it self away through it; and after a miles concealment, appears again with more glory and beauty than before that opposition; running through the most pleasant Valleys and most fruitful Meadows, that this Nation can justly boast of.*

Viat. Has young Maſter *Izaak Walton* been here too?

Piſc. Yes marry has he Sir, and that again, and again too, and in *France* ſince, and at *Rome*, and at *Venice*, and I can't tell vvhere: but I intend to ask him a great many hard queſtions

ſtions ſo ſoon as I can ſee him, which vvill be, God vvilling, next Month. In the mean time, Sir, to come to this fine ſtream at the head of this great Pool, you muſt venture over theſe ſlippery cobling ſtones; believe me, Sir, there you vvere nimble or elſe you had been down; but now you are got over, look to your ſelf; for on my vvord if a Fiſh riſe here, he is like to be ſuch a one, as will endanger your tackle: How novv!

Viat. I think you have ſuch command here over the Fiſhes, that you can raiſe them by your vvord, as they ſay Conjurers can do Spirits, and afterward make them do vvhat you bid them: for here's a Trout has taken my Flie, I had rather have loſt a Crown. What luck's this! He vvas a lovely Fiſh, and turn'd up a ſide like a Salmon.

Piſc. O Sir, this is a War vvhere you ſometimes win, and muſt ſometimes expect to looſe. Never concern your ſelf for the loſs of your Flie; for ten to one I teach you to make a better. Who's that calls?

Serv. Sir, Will it pleaſe you to come to dinner?

Piſc. We come. You hear Sir we are call'd, and now take your choice, whether you vvill climb this ſteep Hill before you, from the top of vvhich you vvill go directly into the Houſe, or back again over theſe ſtepping ſtones, and about by the Bridg.

Viat. Nay, ſure the neareſt vvay is beſt; at leaſt my ſtomach tells me ſo; and I am now ſo well acquainted with your Rocks, that I fear them not.

Piſc. Come then, follow me, and ſo ſoon as we have din'd; we will down again to the little Houſe; where I will begin at the place I left off about Flie-Fiſhing, and read you another Lecture; for I have a great deal more to ſay upon that Subject.

Viat. The more the better; I could never have met with a more obliging Maſter, my firſt excepted; nor ſuch ſport can all the Rivers about *London* ever afford, as is to be found in this pretty River.

Piſc. You deſerve to have better, both becauſe I ſee you are willing to take pains, and for liking this little ſo well; and better I hope to ſhew you before we part.

CHAP.

CHAP. VII.

VIAT. Come Sir, having now well din'd, and being again ſet in your little Houſe; I will now challenge your promiſe, and entreat you to proceed in your inſtruction for Flie-fiſhing, which, that you may be the better encourag'd to do, I will aſſure you, that I have not loſt, I think, one ſyllable of what you have told me; but very well retain all your directions both for the Rod, Line, and making a Flie, and now deſire an account of the Flies themſelves.

Piſc. Why Sir, I am ready to give it you, and ſhall have the whole afternoon to do it in, if no body come in to interrupt us; for you muſt know (beſides the unfitneſs of the day) that the afternoons ſo early in *March* ſignifie very little to Angling with a Flie, though with a Minnow, or a Worm ſomething might (I confeſs) be done.

To begin then where I left off, my Father *Walton* tells us but of 12 Artificial flies only, to Angle with at the top, and gives their names; of which ſome are common with us here; and I think I gueſs at moſt of them by his deſcription, and I believe they all breed, and are taken in our Rivers, though we do not make

them either of the ſame Dubbing, or faſhion. And it may be in the Rivers about *London*, which I preſume he has moſt frequented, and where 'tis likely he has done moſt execution, there is not much notice taken of many more: but we are acquainted with ſeveral others here (though perhaps I may reckon ſome of his by other names too) but if I do, I ſhall make you amends by an addition to his Catalogue. And although the forenamed great Maſter in the Art of Angling (for ſo in truth he is) tells you that no man ſhould in honeſty catch a Trout till the middle of *March*, yet I hope he will give a Man leave ſooner to take a Grayling, which, as I told you, is in the dead Months in his beſt ſeaſon; and do aſſure you (which I remember by a very remarkable token) I did once take upon the ſixt day of December one, and only one, of the biggeſt Graylings and the beſt in ſeaſon, that ever I yet ſaw, or taſted; and do uſually take Trouts too, and with a Flie, not only before the middle of this Month, but almoſt every year in *February*, unleſs it be a very ill ſpring indeed, and have ſometimes in *January*, ſo early as New-years-tide, and in froſt and ſnow taken Grayling in a warm ſunſhine day for an hour or two about Noon; and to fiſh for him with a Grub it is then the beſt time of all.

I ſhall therefore begin my Flie-fiſhing with tha:

that Month (though I confeſs very few begin ſo ſoon, and that ſuch as are ſo fond of the ſport as to embrace all opportunities, can rarely in that Month find a day fit for their purpoſe) and tell you, that upon my knowledg theſe Flies in a warm ſun, for an hour or two in the day, are certainly taken.

January.

1. A red brown with wings of the Male of a Malard almoſt white: the dubbing of the tail of a black long coated Cur, ſuch as they commonly make muffs of; for the hair on the tail of ſuch a Dog dies, and turns to a red Brown, but the hair of a ſmoth coated Dog of the ſame colour will not do, becauſe it will not dye, but retains its natural colour, and this flie is taken in a warm ſun, this whole Month thorough.

2. There is alſo a very little bright Dun Gnat, as little as can poſſibly be made, ſo little as never to be fiſht with, with above one hair next the hook, and this is to be made of a mixt dubbing of Martins fur, and the white of a Hares ſcut; with a very white, and ſmall wing; and 'tis no great matter how fine you fiſh, for nothing will riſe in this Month but a Grayling, and of them I never at this ſeaſon ſaw any taken with a Flie, of above a foot

long in my life: but of little ones about the bigneſs of a ſmelt in a warm day, and a glowing Sun, you may take enough with theſe two Fiſhes, and they are both taken the whole North through.

February.

1. Where the Red-brown of the laſt Month ends, another almoſt of the ſame colour begins with this, ſaving that the dubbing of this muſt be of ſomething a blacker colour, and both of them warpt on with red ſilk; the dubbing that ſhould make this Flie, and that is the trueſt colour, is to be got of the black ſpot of a Hogs ear: not that a black ſpot in any part of the Hog will not afford the ſame colour; but that the hair in that place is by many degrees ſofter, and more fit for the purpoſe: his wing muſt be as the other, and this kills all this Month, and is call'd the leſſer Red-brown.

2. This Month alſo a plain Hackle, or palmer-Flie made with a rough black body, either of black Spaniels furr, or the whirl of an *Eſtridg* feather, and the red Hackle of a Capon over all, will kill, and if the weather be right make very good ſport.

3. Alſo a leſſer Hackle with a black body alſo, ſilver twiſt over that, and a red feather over all, will fill your pannier if the Month be open,

open, and not bound up in Ice, and ſnow, with very good Fiſh; but in caſe of a froſt and ſnow, you are to Angle only with the ſmalleſt Gnats, Browns and Duns you can make, and with thoſe are only to expect Graylings no bigger, than ſprats.

4. In this Month, upon a whirling round water, we have a great Hackle, the body black, and wrapped with a red feather of a Capon untrim'd; that is, the whole length of the Hackle ſtaring out (for we ſometimes barb the Hackle feather ſhort all over; ſometimes barb it only a little, and ſometimes barb it cloſe underneath, leaving the whole length of the feather on the top, or back of the Flie which makes it ſwim better, and as occaſion ſerves kills very great Fiſh.

5. We make uſe alſo in this Month of another great Hackle the body black, and rib'd over with Gold twiſt, and a red feather over all, which alſo does great execution.

6. Alſo a great Dun, made with Dun Bears Hair, and the wings of the grey feather of a Mallard near unto his tail, which is abſolutely the beſt Flie can be thrown upon a River this Month, and with which an Angler ſhall have admirable ſport.

7. We have alſo this Month the great blew Dun, the dubbing of the bottom of Bears hair next to the roots, mixt with a little blew Camlet,

Camlet, the wings of the dark grey feather of a Mallard.

8. We have alſo this Month a Dark-Brown, the dubbing of the brown hair of the Flanck of a brended Cow, and the wings of the grey-Drakes feather.

And note, that theſe ſeveral Hackels, or Palmer Flies, are ſome for one Water, and one Skye, and ſome for another, and according to the change of thoſe, we alter their ſize, and colour, and note alſo, that both in this, and all other Months of the Year, when you do not certainly know what Flie is taken; or cannot ſee any Fiſh to riſe, you are then to put on a ſmall Hackle, if the Water be clear, or a bigger if ſomething dark, untill you have taken one, and then thruſting your finger thorough his Guils, to pull out his Gorge, which being open'd with your knife, you will then diſcover what Flie is taken, and may fit your ſelf accordingly.

For the making of a Hackle, or Palmer Flie my Father *Walton* has already given you ſufficient direction.

March.

For this Month you are to uſe all the ſame Hackels, and Flies with the other, but you are to make them leſs.

1. We

1. We have beſides for this Month a little Dun call'd a whirling Dun (though it is not the whirling Dun indeed, which is one of the beſt Flies we have) and for this the dubbing muſt be of the bottom fur of a Squirrels tail and the wing of the grey feather of a Drake.

2. Alſo a bright brown, the dubbing either of the brown of a Spaniel, or that of a Cows flanck, with a Grayling.

3. Alſo a whitiſh Dun made of the roots of Camels hair, and the wings of the grey feather of a Mallard.

4. There is alſo for this Month a Flie, call'd the Thorn Tree Flie, the dubbing an abſolute black mixt with eight or ten hairs of *Iſabella* colour'd Mohair, the body as little as can be made, and the wings of a bright Malards feather, an admirable Flie, and in great repute amongſt us for a killer.

5. There is beſides this another blew Dun, the dubbing of which it is made being thus to be got. Take a ſmall tooth comb, and with it comb the neck of a black Grey hound, and the down that ſticks in the teeth, will be the fineſt blew, that ever you ſaw. The wings of this Flie can hardly be too white, and he is taken about the tenth of this Month, and laſteth till the four and twentieth.

6. From the tenth of this Month alſo till towards the end, is taken a little black Gnat; the

the dubbing either of the fur of a black water-Dog, or the down of a young black water-Coot, the wings of the Male of a Mallard as white as may be, the body as little as you can poſſibly make it, and the wings as ſhort as his body.

7. From the Sixteenth of this Month alſo to the end of it, we uſe a bright brown, the dubbing for which, is to be had out of a Skinners Lime-pits, and of the hair of an abortive Calf, which the lime will turn to be ſo bright, as to ſhine like Gold, for the wings of this Flie, the feather of a brown Hen is beſt; which Flie is alſo taken till the tenth of *April*.

April.

All the ſame Hackles, and Flies that were taken in *March* will be taken in this Month alſo, with this diſtinction only concerning the Flies, that all the browns be lapt with red ſilk, and the Duns with yellow.

1. To theſe a ſmall bright brown, made of Spaniels fur, with a light grey wing; in a bright day, and a clear water is very well taken.

2. We have too a little dark brown, the dubbing of that colour, and ſome violet Camlet mixt, and the wing of the grey feather of a Mallard.

3. From

3. From the ſixth of this Month to the tenth, we have alſo a Flie call'd the violet Flie, made of a dark violet ſtuff, with the wings of the grey feather of a Mallard.

4. About the twelfth of this Month comes in the Flie call'd the whirling Dun, which is taken every day about the mid time of day all this Month through, and by fits from thence to the end of *June*, and is commonly made of the down of a Fox Cub, which is of an Aſh colour at the roots, next the skin, and ribb'd about with yellow ſilk, the wings of the pale grey feather of a Mallard.

5. There is alſo a yellow Dun, the dubbing of Camels hair, and yellow Camlet, or wool mixt, and a white grey wing.

6. There is alſo this Month another little brown, beſides that mention'd before, made with a very ſlender body, the dubbing of dark brown, and violet Camlet mixt, and a grey wing; which though the direction for the making be near the other, is yet another Flie, and will take when the other will not, eſpecially in a bright day, and a clear water.

7. About the twentieth of this Month comes in a Flie call'd the Horſe-fleſh Flie, the dubbing of which is a blew Mohair, with pink colour'd, and red Tammy mixt, a light colour'd wing, and a dark brown head. This flie is taken beſt in an Evening, and kills from two

hours

hours before Sun ſet till twilight, and is taken the Month thorough.

May.

And now Sir, that we are entring into the Month of *May*, I think it requiſite to beg not only your attention; but alſo your beſt patience; for I muſt now be a little tedious with you, and dwell upon this Month longer than ordinary; which that you may the better endure, I muſt tell you, this Month deſerves, and requires to be inſiſted on, for as much as it alone, and the next following afford more pleaſure to the Flie-Angler, than all the reſt; and here it is that you are to expect an account of the Green Drake, and ſtone-flie, promis'd you ſo long ago, and ſome others that are peculiar to this Month, and part of the Month following, and that (though not ſo great either in bulk, or name) do yet ſtand in competition with the two before named, and ſo, that it is yet undecided amongſt the Anglers to which of the pretenders to the Title of the May-flie, it does properly, and duly belong, neither dare I (where ſo many of the learned in this Art of Angling are got in diſpute about the controverſie) take upon me to determine; but I think I ought to have a vote amongſt them, and according to that priviledg, ſhall

give

give you my free opinion, and peradventure when I have told you all, you may incline to think me in the right.

Viat. I have ſo great a deference to your judgment in theſe matters, that I muſt always be of your opinion; and the more you ſpeak, the faſter I grow to my attention, for I can never be weary of hearing you upon this Subject.

Piſc. Why that's encouragement enough; and now prepare your ſelf for a tedious Lecture; but I will firſt begin with the flies of leſs eſteem (though almoſt any thing will take a Trout in *May*) that I may afterwards inſiſt the longer upon thoſe of greater note, and reputation; know therefore that the firſt flie we take notice of in this Month, is call'd the Turky-flie, the.

1. The dubbing ravell'd out of ſome blew ſtuff, and lapt about with yellow ſilk, the wings of a grey Mallards feather.

2. next a great Hackle; or Palmer-flie, with a yellow body ribb'd with Gold twiſt, and large wings of a Mallards feather dyed yellow, with a red Capons Hackle over all,

3. Then a black flie, the dubbing of a black Spaniels fur, and the wings of a grey Mallards feather.

4, After that a light brown with a ſlender body,

body, the dubbing twirl'd upon ſmall red ſilk, and rais'd with the point of a needle, that the ribs or rows of ſilk may appear through the wings of the grey feather of a Mallard.

5. Next a little Dun, the dubbing of a Bears dun whirl'd upon yellow ſilk, the wings of the grey feather of a Mallard.

6. Then a white Gnat, with a pale wing, and a black head.

7. There is alſo this Month a flie call'd the Peacock-flie, the body made of a whirl of a Peacocks feather, with a red head, and wings of a Mallards feather.

8. We have then another very killing flie, known by the name of the Dun-Cut, the dubbing of which is a Bears dun, with a little blew, and yellow mixt with it, a large dun wing, and two horns at the head, made of the hairs of a Squirrels tail.

9. The next is the Cow-Lady, a little flie, the body of a Peacocks feather, the wing of a red feather, or ſtrips of the red hackle of a Cock.

10. We have then the Cow-turd flie; the dubbing light brown, and yellow mixt, the wing the dark grey feather of a Mallard. And note that beſides theſe abovementioned, all the ſame Hackles and Flies, the Hackles only brighter, and the Flies ſmaller, that are taken in *April*, will alſo be taken this Month, as alſo all

all Browns, and Duns: and now I come to my Stone-Flie, and Green-Drake, which are the Matadores for Trout and Grayling, and in their ſeaſon kill more Fiſh in our *Derbyſhire* Rivers, than all the reſt paſt, and to come, in the whole Year beſides.

But firſt I am to tell you, that we have four ſeveral flies which contend for the Title of the May-Flie, namely,

The Green-Drake,
The Stone-Flie,
The Black Flie, and
The little yellow May-Flie.

And all theſe have their Champions and Advocates to diſpute, and plead their priority; though I do not underſtand why the two laſt named ſhould; the firſt two having ſo manifeſtly the advantage, both in their beauty, and the wonderful execution they do in their ſeaſon.

11. Of theſe the Green-Drake comes in about the twentieth of this Month, or betwixt that, and the latter end (for they are ſometimes ſooner, and ſometimes later according to the quality of the Year) but never well taken till towards the end of this Month, and the beginning of *June*. The Stone-Flie comes much ſooner, ſo early as the middle of *April*;

but is never well taken till towards the middle of *May*, and continues to kill much longer than the Green-Drake ſtays with us, ſo long as to the end almoſt of *June*; and indeed, ſo long as there are any of them to be ſeen upon the water; and ſometimes in an Artificial Flie, and late at night, or before Sun riſe in a morning, longer.

Now both theſe Flies (and I believe many others, though I think not all) are certainly, and demonſtratively bred in the very Rivers where they are taken, our Caddis or Cod-bait which lye under ſtones in the bottom of the water, moſt of them turning into thoſe two Flies, and being gather'd in the huſk, or cruſt, near the time of their maturity, are very eaſily known, and diſtinguiſht, and are of all other the moſt remarkable, both for their ſize, as being of all other the biggeſt (the ſhorteſt of them being a full inch long, or more) and for the execution they do, the Trout, and Grayling being much more greedy of them, than of any others; and indeed the Trout never feeds fat, nor comes into his perfect ſeaſon, till theſe Flies come in.

Of theſe the Green-Drake never diſcloſes from his huſk, till he be firſt there grown to full maturity, body, wings, and all, and then he creeps out of his cell, but with his wings ſo crimpt, and ruffled, by being preſt together

in

in that narrow room, that they are for ſome hours totally uſeleſs to him, by which means he is compelled either to creep upon the flags, ſedges, and blades of graſs (if his firſt riſing from the bottom of the water be near the banks of the River) till the Air, and Sun, ſtiffen and ſmooth them! or if his firſt appearance above water happen to be in the middle, he then lies upon the ſurface of the water like a Ship at Hull (for his feet are totally uſeleſs to him there, and he cannot creep upon the water as the Stone-Flie can) untill his wings have got ſtiffneſs to fly with, if by ſome Trout, or Grayling he be not taken in the interim (which ten to one he is) and then his wings ſtand high, and clos'd exact upon his back, like the Butterfly, and his motion in flying is the ſame. His Body is in ſome of a paler, in others of a darker yellow (for they are not all exactly of a colour) rib'd with rows of green, long, ſlender, and growing ſharp towards the tail, at the end of which he has three long ſmall whisks of a very dark colour, almoſt black, and his tail turns up towards his back like a Mallard, from whence queſtionleſs he has his name of the green-Drake. Theſe (as I think I told you before) we commonly dape, or dibble with, and having gather'd great ſtore of them into a long draw box, with holes in the Cover to give them Air (where alſo they

will continue freſh, and vigorous a night or more) we take them out thence by the wings, and bait them thus upon the Hook. We firſt take one) for we commonly Fiſh with two of them at a time) and putting the point of the Hook into the thickeſt part of his Body under one of his wings, run it directly through and out at the other ſide, leaving him ſpitted croſs upon the Hook, and then taking the other, put him on after the ſame manner, but with his head the contrary way, in which poſture they will live upon the Hook, and play with their wings for a quarter of an hour, or more: but you muſt have a care to keep their wings dry, both from the water, and alſo that your fingers be not wet when you take them out to bait them; for then your bait is ſpoil'd.

Having now told you how to Angle with this Flie alive; I am now to tell you next, how to make an Artificial Flie, that will ſo perfectly reſemble him, as to be taken in a rough windy day, when no Flies can lye upon the water; nor are to be found about the Banks and ſides of the River, to a wonder, and with which you ſhall certainly kill the beſt Trout, and Grayling in the River.

The Artificial Green-Drake then is made upon a large Hook, the Dubbing, Camels hair, bright Bears hair, the ſoft down that is comb'd from a Hogs briſtles, and yellow Camlet well mixt

mixt together, the body long, and ribb'd about with green ſilk, or rather yellow waxt with green-wax, the whisks of the tail of the long hairs of ſables, or fitchet, and the wings of the white grey feather of a Mallard dyed yellow, which alſo is to be dyed thus.

Take the root of a Barbary Tree, and ſhave it, and put to it Woody viſs, with as much Alum as a Walnut, and boyl your feathers in it with Rain water; and they will be of a very fine yellow.

I have now done with the Green-drake excepting to tell you, that he is taken at all hours during his ſeaſon, whilſt there is any day upon the Sky; and with a made Flie, I once took, ten days after he was abſolutely gone, in a Cloudy day, after a ſhowr, and in a whiſtling wind, five and thirty very great Trouts, and Graylings betwixt five, and eight of the Clock in the Evening, and had no leſs than five, or ſix Flies with three good hairs a piece taken from me in deſpite of my heart, beſides.

12. I ſhould now come next to the Stone-Flie, but there is another Gentleman in my way: that muſt of neceſſity come in between, and that is the Grey-Drake, which in all ſhapes, and dimenſions is perfectly the ſame with the other, but quite almoſt of another colour, being of a paler, and more livid yellow, and green, and ribb'd with black quite down his

body, with black ſhining wings, and ſo diaphanous and tender, cob-web like, that they are of no manner of uſe for Daping; but come in, and are taken after the Green-Drake, and in an Artificial Flie kill very well, which Flie is thus made, the Dubbing of the down of a Hogs briſtles, and black Spaniels fur mixt, and ribb'd down the body with black ſilk, the whisks of the hairs of the beard of a black Cat, and the wings of the black grey feather of a Mallard.

And now I come to the Stone-Flie, but am afraid I have already wearied your patience, which if I have, I beſeech you freely tell me ſo, and I will deter the remaining inſtructions for Flie-Angling till ſome other time.

Viat. No truly Sir, I can never be weary of hearing you: but if you think fit, becauſe I am afraid I am too troubleſom, to refreſh your ſelf with a glaſs, and a pipe; you may afterwards proceed, and I ſhall be exceedingly pleas'd to hear you.

Piſc. I thank you *Sir* for that motion; for believe me I am dry with talking, Here Boy, give us here a Bottle, and a Glaſs; and *Sir*, my ſervice to you, and to all our Friends in the South.

Viat. Your Servant *Sir*, and I'le pledg you as heartily; for the good powder'd beef I eat at Dinner, or ſomething elſe, has made me thirſty.

CHAP.

CHAP. VIII.

VIAT. So, *Sir*, I am now ready for another Leſſon ſo ſoon as you pleaſe to give it me.

Piſc. and I, *Sir*, as ready to give you the beſt I can. Having told you the time of the Stone-Flie's coming in, and that he is bred of a Caddis in the very River where he is taken, I am next to tell you, that

13. This ſame Stone-Flie has not the patience to continue in his Cruſt, or Husk till his wings be full grown; but ſo ſoon as ever they begin to put out, that he feels himſelf ſtrong (at which time we call him a Jack) ſqueezes himſelf out of Priſon, and crawls to the top of ſome ſtone, where if he can find a chink that will receive him, or can creep betwixt two ſtones, the one lying hollow upon the other (which, by the way, we alſo lay ſo purpoſely to find them) he there lurks till his wings be full grown, and there is your only place to find him (and from thence doubtleſs he derives his name) though, for want of ſuch convenience, he will make ſhift with the hollow of a Bank, or any other place where the wind cannot come to fetch him off. His body is long, and pretty thick, and as broad at the tail almoſt, as in the

middle; his colour a very fine brown, ribb'd with yellow, and much yellower on the belly than the back, he has two or three whisks alſo at the tag of his tail, and two little horns upon his head, his wings, when full grown, are double, and flat down his back of the ſame colour, but rather darker than his body, and longer than it; though he makes but little uſe of them, for you ſhall rarely ſee him flying, though often ſwimming, and padling with ſeveral feet he has under his belly upon the water, without ſtirring a wing: but the Drake will mount Steeple height into the Air, though he is to be found upon flags and graſs too, and indeed every where high and low, near the River; there being ſo many of them in their ſeaſon, as were they not a very inoffenſive inſect, would look like a Plague; and theſe Drakes (ſince I forgot to tell you before, I will tell you here) are taken by the Fiſh to that incredible degree, that upon a calm day you ſhall ſee the ſtill deeps continually all over circles by the Fiſhes riſing, who will gorge themſelves with thoſe Flies, till they purge again out of their Guills; and the Trouts are at that time ſo luſty and ſtrong, that one of eight, or ten inches long, will then more ſtruggle, and tug, and more endanger your Tackle, than one twice as big in winter: but pardon this digreſſion.

This

This Stone-flie then we dape or dibble with as with the Drake, but with this difference, that whereas the green-Drake is common both to ſtream and ſtill, and to all hours of the day, we ſeldome dape with this but in the ſtreams, (for in a whiſtling wind a made Flie in the deep is better, and rarely, but early and late, it not being ſo proper for the mid-time of the day; though a great *Grayling* will then take it very well in a ſharp ſtream, and here and there a Trout too: but much better toward 8.9,10.or eleven of the clock at night, at which time alſo the beſt Fiſh riſe, and the latter the better, provided you can ſee your Flie, and when you cannot, a made Flie will murder, which is to be made thus: The dubbing of bears dun with a little brown and yellow Camlet very well mixt; but ſo plac'd that your Flie may be more yellow on the belly and towards the tail underneath than in any other part, and you are to place two or three hairs of a black Cats beard on the top of the hook in your arming, ſo as to be turn'd up, when you warp on your dubbing, and to ſtand almoſt upright, and ſtaring one from another, and note that your Flie is to be ribb'd with yellow ſilk, and the wings long, and very large, of the dark grey feather of a Mallard.

14. The

14. The next *May-Flie* is the black Flie, made with a black body of the whirle of an Oſtridg-feather, rib'd with ſilver twiſt, and the black hackle of a Cock over all; and is a killing Flie, but not to be nam'd with either of the other.

15. The laſt *May-Flie* (that is of the four pretenders) is the little yellow *May-Flie*, in ſhape exactly the ſame with the green Drake, but a very little one, and of as bright a yellow as can be ſeen; which is made of a bright yellow Camlet, and the wings of a white grey feather died yellow.

16. The laſt Flie for this month (and which continues all *June*, though it comes in the middle of *May*) is the Flie called the Camlet-Flie, in ſhape like a moth with fine diapred, or water-wings, and with which (as I told you before) I ſometimes uſed to dibble; and Grayling will riſe mightily at it. But the artificial Flie (which is only in uſe amongſt our Anglers) is made of a dark brown ſhining Camlet, rib'd over with a very ſmall light green ſilk, the wings of the double grey feather of a Mallard; and 'tis a killing Flie for ſmall Fiſh, and ſo much for *May*.

June

June.

From the firſt to the four and twentieth, the green-Drake and Stone-Flie are taken (as I told you before.)

1. From the twelfth to the four and twentieth late at night is taken a Flie, called the Owl-Flie; the dubbing of a white Weeſel's tail, and a white Grey wing.

2. We have then another *Dunne*, call'd the *Barm-flie*, from it's yeſty colour, the dubbing of the fur of a yellow dun Cat, and a grey wing of a Mallards feather.

3. We have alſo a hackle with a purple body, whipt about with a red Capons feather.

4. As alſo a gold twiſt Hackle with a purple body, whipt about with a red Capons feather.

5. To theſe we have this month a Fleſh-flie, the dubbing of a black Spaniel's furre, and blew wool mixt, and a grey wing.

6. Alſo another little fleſh-flie, the body made of the whirle of a Peacocks feather, and the wings of the grey feather of a Drake.

7. We have then the Peacock-flie, the body and wing both made of the feather of that bird.

8. There

8. There is alſo the flying Ant, or Ant-flie, the dubbing of brown and red Camlet mixt, with a light grey wing.

9. We have likewiſe a brown Gnat, with a very ſlender body of brown and violet Camlet well mixt, and a light grey wing.

10. And another little black Gnat, the dubbing of black mohair, and a white Grey wing.

11. As alſo a green Graſhopper, the dubbing of green and yellow Wool mixed, rib'd over with green Silk, and a red Capons feather over all.

12. And laſtly a little dun Graſhopper, the body ſlender made of a dun Camlet, and a dun hackle at the top.

July.

July.

First all the ſmall flies that were taken in *June*, are alſo taken in this month.

1. We have then the Orange Flie, the dubbing of Orange Wool, and the wing of a black feather.

2. Alſo a little white dun, the body made of white Mohair, and the wings blew of a Herons feather.

3. We have likewiſe this month a Waſp-flie, made either of a dark brown dubbing, or elſe the furre of a black Cats tail, ribb'd about with yellow ſilk, and the wing of the grey feather of a Mallard.

4. Another flie taken this month is a black Hackle, the body made of the whirle of a Peacock's feather, and a black hackle feather on the top.

5. We have alſo another made of a Peacocks whirle without wings.

6. Another flie alſo is taken this month call'd the ſhel-flie, the dubbing of yellow-green Jerſey Wool, and a little white Hoggs hair mixt, which I call the Palm-flie, and do believe it is taken for a Palm, that drops off the willows into the water; for this flie I have

ſeen

ſeen Trouts take little pieces of moſs, as they have ſwam down the River, by which I conclude that the beſt way to hit the right colour is to compare your dubbing with the Moſs, and mix the colours as near as you can.

7. There is alſo taken this month a black blew Dun, the dubbing of the furre of a black Rabbet mixt with a little yellow, the wings of the Feather of a blew Pigeons wing.

Auguſt.

The ſame Flies with *July*.

1. Then another Art-flie, the dubbing of the black brown hair of a Cow, ſome red warpt in for the Tagg of his tail, and a dark wing, a killing flie.

2. Next a flie call'd the Fern-flie, the dubbing of the fur of a Hares neck, that is of the colour of Fearn, or Brackin, with a darkiſh grey wing of a Mallards feather, a killer too.

3. Beſides theſe we have a white Hackle, the body of white Mo-hair, and wrapped about with a white Hackle Feather, and this is aſſuredly taken for Thiſtle-down.

4. We

4. We have alſo this month a Harry-long-leggs, the body made of Bears dun, and blew Wool mixt, and a brown hackle Feather over all.

Laſtly in this month all the ſame browns and duns are taken, that were taken in *May*.

September.

This month the ſame Flies are taken, that are taken in *April*.

1. To which I ſhall only add a Camel-brown Flie, the dubbing pull'd out of the lime of a Wall whipt about with red Silk, and a darkiſh grey Mallards feather for the wing.

2. And one other for which we have no name; but it is made of the black hair of a Badgers skin mixt with the yellow ſofteſt down of a ſanded Hog.

October.

October.

The ſame Flies are taken this month, that were taken in *March.*

Novemb.

The ſame Flies that were taken in *February*, are taken this month alſo.

December.

Few men angle with the Flie this month, no more than they do in *January*: but yet if the weather be warm (as I have known it ſometimes in my life to be, even in this cold Country where it is leaſt expected) then a brown that looks red in the hand, and yellowiſh betwixt your eye and the Sun; will both raiſe and kill in a clear water, and free from ſnow-broth: but at the beſt 'tis hardly worth a man's labour.

And

And now *Sir*, I have done with Flie-fiſhing, or angling at the top, excepting once more to tell you, that of all theſe (and I have named you a great many very killing flies) none are fit to be compared with the Drake and Stone-flie, both for many and very great fiſh; and yet there are ſome daies, that are by no means proper for the ſport, and in a calm you ſhall not have near ſo much ſport even with daping, as in a whiſtling gale of wind, for two reaſons, both becauſe you are not then ſo eaſily diſcovered by the fiſh, and alſo becauſe there are then but few flies can lye upon the water; for where they have ſo much choice, you may eaſily imagine they will not be ſo eager and forward to riſe at a bait, that both the ſhadow of your body, and that of your Rod, nay of your very line, in a hot calm day will, in ſpite of your beſt caution, render ſuſpected to them: but even then, in ſwift ſtreams, or by ſitting down patiently behind a willow buſh, you ſhall do more execution than at almoſt any other time of the year with any other flie, though one may ſometimes hit of a day, when he ſhall come home very well ſatisfied with ſport with ſeveral other Flies: but with theſe two, the green Drake and the Stone-flie, I do verily believe I could ſome daies in my life, had I not been weary of ſlaughter, have loaden a luſty boy, and have ſometimes, I do honeſtly aſſure you,

given over upon the meer account of ſatiety of ſport; which will be no hard matter to believe, when I likewiſe aſſure you, that with this very flie, I have in this very River that runs by us in three or four hours taken thirty, five and thirty, and forty of the beſt Trouts in the River. What ſhame and pity is it then, that ſuch a River ſhould be deſtroyed by the baſeſt ſort of people, by thoſe unlawful ways of fire and netting in the night, and of damming, groping, ſpearing, hanging and hooking by day, which are now grown ſo common, that, though we have very good Laws to puniſh ſuch Offenders, every Raſcal does it, for ought I ſee, *impunè*.

To conclude, I cannot now in honeſty but frankly tell you, that many of theſe flies I have nam'd, at leaſt ſo made as we make them here, will peradventure do you no great ſervice in your Southern Rivers, and will not conceal from you, but that I have ſent flies to ſeveral friends in *London*, that for ought I could ever hear, never did any great feats with them, and therefore if you intend to profit by my inſtructions, you muſt come to angle with me here in the Peak; and ſo, if you pleaſe, let us walk up to Supper, and to morrow, if the day be windy, as our daies here commonly are, 'tis ten to one but we ſhall take a good diſh of fiſh for dinner.

CHAP.

CHAP. IX.

PISC. A good day to you, *Sir*; I ſee you will alwaies be ſtirring before me.

Viat. Why, to tell you the truth, I am ſo allur'd with the ſport I had yeſterday, that I long to be at the River again, and when I heard the wind ſing in my Chamber window, could forbear no longer, but leap out of bed, and had juſt made an end of dreſſing my ſelf, as you came in.

Piſc. Well, I am both glad you are ſo ready for the day, and that the day is ſo fit for you, and look you I have made you three or four flies this morning, this ſilver twiſt hackle, this bears dun, this light brown and this dark brown, any of which I dare ſay will do; but you may try them all, and ſee which does beſt, only I muſt ask your pardon that I cannot wait upon you this Morning, a little buſineſs being fal'n out, that for two or three hours, will deprive me of your Company: but I'le come call you home to dinner, and my man ſhall attend you.

Viat. Oh *Sir*, mind your affairs by all means, do but lend me a little of your skill to theſe fine flies, and, unleſs it have forſaken me ſince yeſterday, I ſhall find luck of my own I hope to do ſomething.

Piſc. The beſt Inſtruction I can give you, is, that, ſeeing the wind curles the water, and blows the right way, you would now angle up the ſtill deep to day; for betwixt the Rocks where the ſtreams are, you would find it now too brisk, and beſides I would have you take fiſh in both Waters.

Viat. I'le obey your Direction, and ſo a good morning to you. Come young man, let you and I walk together. But heark you, *Sir*, I have not done with you yet; I expect another Leſſon for angling at the bottom, in the afternoon.

Piſc. Well, Sir, I'le be ready for you.

CHAP.

CHAP. X.

PISC. Oh *Sir*, are you return'd? you have but juſt prevented me. I was coming to call you.

Viat. I am glad then I have ſav'd you the labour.

Piſc. And how have you ſped.

Viat. You ſhall ſee that, *Sir*, preſently, look you *Sir*, here are three * brace of Trouts, one of them the biggeſt but one, that ever I kill'd with a flie in my life, and yet I loſt a bigger than that, with my Flie to boo't, and here are three Graylings, and one of them longer by ſome inches than that I took yeſterday, and yet I thought that a good one too.

* *Spoke like a South-Country man.*

Piſc. Why you have made a pretty good mornings work on't, and now *Sir*, what think you of our River *Dove?*

Viat. I think it to be the beſt Trout River in *England*; and am ſo far in love with it, that if it were mine, and that I could keep it to my ſelf, I would not exchange that water, for all the Land it runs over; to be totally debarr'd from't.

Pisc. That Complement to the River, ſpeaks you a true lover of the Art of angling: And now, *Sir*, to make part of amends for ſending you ſo uncivilly out alone this Morning, I will my ſelf dreſs you this diſh of fiſh for your dinner, walk but into the parlour, you will find one Book or other in the window to entertain you the while, and you ſhall have it preſently.

Viat. Well *Sir*, I obey you.

Pisc. Look you *Sir*, have I not made haſte?

Viat. Believe me *Sir*, that you have, and it looks ſo well, I long to be at it.

Pisc. Fall too then; now *Sir* what ſay you! am I a tolerable Cook or no?

Viat. So good a one, that I did never eat ſo good Fiſh in my life. This Fiſh is infinitely better, than any I ever taſted of the kind in my life. 'Tis quite another thing, than our Trouts about *London*.

Pisc. You would ſay ſo, if that Trout you eat of were in right ſeaſon: but pray eat of the Grayling, which upon my word at this time, is by much the better Fiſh.

Viat. In earneſt, and ſo it is: and I have one requeſt to make to you, which is, that as you have taught me to catch Trout and Grayling, you will now teach me how to dreſs them as theſe are dreſt, which queſtionleſs is of all other the beſt way.

Pisc.

Piſc. That I will *Sir*, with all my heart, and am glad you like them ſo well, as to make that requeſt, and they are dreſt thus.

Take your Trout, waſh, and dry him with a clean Napkin; then open him, and having taken out his guts, and all the blood, wipe him very clean within, but waſh him not, and give him three ſcotches with a Knife to the bone on one ſide only. After which take a clean Kettle, and put in as much hard ſtale Beer (but it muſt not be dead) Vinegar, and a little Whitewine, and Water, as will cover the Fiſh you intend to boyl; then throw into the Liquor a good quantity of Salt, the Rind of a Lemon, a handful of ſlic't Horſe-Radiſh root, with a handſom little fagot of Roſemary, Time, and Winter-Savory. Then ſet your Kettle upon a quick fire of wood, and let your Liquor boyl up to the height before you put in your Fiſh, and then, if there be many, put them in one by one, that they may not ſo cool the Liquor, as to make it fall; and whilſt your Fiſh is boyling, beat up the Butter for your Sawce with a Ladle full or two of the Liquor it is boyling in, and being boyld enough, immediately pour the Liquor from the Fiſh, and being laid in a Diſh, pour your Butter upon it, and ſtrewing it plentifully over with ſhav'd Horſe-Raddiſh, and a little pounded Ginger, garniſh your ſides of your Diſh, and the Fiſh it ſelf with a ſlic't

Lemon, or two, and ſerve it up. A Grayling is alſo to be dreſt exactly after the ſame manner, ſaving that he is to be ſcal'd, which a Trout never is: and that muſt be done either with ones nails, or very lightly and carefully with a Knife for bruiſing the Fiſh. And note, that theſe kinds of Fiſh, a Trout eſpecially, if he is not eaten within four, or five hours after he be taken, is worth nothing.

But come *Sir*, I ſee you have din'd, and therefore if you pleaſe we will walk down again to the little Houſe, and there I will read you a Lecture of Angling at the bottom.

CHAP.

CHAP. XI.

Viat. So *Sir*, Now we are here, and ſet: let me have my inſtructions for Angling for Trout, and Grayling at the bottom; which though not ſo eaſy, ſo cleanly, nor (as 'tis ſaid) ſo Gentile a way of Fiſhing, as with a Flie; is yet (if I miſtake not) a good holding way and takes Fiſh when nothing elſe will.

Piſc. You are in the right, it does ſo: and a worm is ſo ſure a bait at all times, that, excepting in a Flood, I would I had laid thouſand pounds that I kill'd Fiſh more, or leſs with it, Winter or Summer every day throughout the Year; thoſe days always excepted, that, upon a more ſerious account always ought ſo to be. But not longer to delay you, I will begin, and tell you, that Angling at the bottom is alſo commonly of two ſorts (and yet there is a third way of Angling with a Ground-bait, and to very great effect too, as ſhall be ſaid hereafter) namely.

By Hand:

or,

With a Cork, or Float.

That we call Angling by hand is of three ſorts.

The firſt with a line about half the length of the Rod, a good weighty plum, and three hairs next the Hook, which we call a running Line, and with one large Brandling, or a dew-worm of a moderate ſize, or two ſmall ones of the firſt, or any other ſort, proper for a Trout, of which my Father *Walton* has already given you the names, and ſav'd me a labour; or indeed almoſt any worm whatever; for if a Trout be in the humour to bite, it muſt be ſuch a worm as I never yet ſaw, that he will refuſe; and if you Fiſh with two, you are then to bait your hook thus. You are firſt to run the point of your hook in at the very head of your firſt worm, and ſo down through his body till it be paſt the knot, and then let it out, and ſtrip the worm above the arming (that you may not bruiſe it with your fingers) till you have put on the other by running the point of the Hook in below the knot, and upwards through his body towards his head till it be but juſt cover'd with

with the head, which being done, you are then to ſlip the firſt worm down over the arming again, till the knots of both worms meet together.

The ſecond way of Angling by hand, and with a running Line, is with a Line ſomething longer than the former, and with Tackle made after this ſame manner. At the utmoſt extremity of your Line, where the Hook is always plac'd in all other ways of Angling, you are to have a large Piſtol, or Carabine Bullet, into which the end of your Line is to be faſtned with a Peg, or Pin even and cloſe with the Bullet, and about half a foot above that, a branch of Line, of two, or three handfuls long; or more, for a ſwift ſtream, with a Hook at the end thereof baited with ſome of the forenamed worms, and another half foot above that another arm'd, and baited after the ſame manner; but with another ſort of worm, without any lead at all above: by which means you will always certainly find the true bottom in all depths, which with the Plums upon your Line above you can never do, but that your bait muſt always drag whilſt you are ſounding (which in this way of Angling muſt be continually) by which means you are like to have more trouble, and peradventure worſe ſucceſs. And both theſe ways of Angling at the bottom are moſt proper for a dark, and muddy water, by reaſon

reaſon that in ſuch a condition of the ſtream, a Man may ſtand as near as he will, and neither his own ſhadow; nor the roundneſs of his Tackle will hinder his ſport.

The third way of Angling by hand with a Ground-bait, and by much the beſt of all other, is, with a Line full as long, or a yard and half longer than your Rod, with no more than one hair next the hook, and for two or three lengths above it, and no more than one ſmall pellet of ſhot for your plum, your Hook little, your worms of the ſmaller Brandlings very well ſcour'd, and only one upon your hook at a time, which is thus to be baited. The point of your hook is to be put in at the very tagg of his tail, and run up his body quite over all the arming, and ſtill ſtript on an inch at leaſt upon the hair, the head and remaining part hanging downward; and with this line and hook thus baited you are evermore to angle in the ſtreams, always in a clear rather than a troubled water, and always up the River, ſtill caſting out your worm before you with a light one-handed Rod, like an artificial Flie, where it will be taken, ſometimes at the top, or within a very little of the *Superficies* of the water, and almoſt always before that light plumb can ſink it to the bottom, both by reaſon of the ſtream, and alſo that you muſt always keep your worm in motion by drawing ſtill back towards

wards you, as if you were angling with a flie; and believe me, whoever will try it, ſhall find this the beſt way of all other to angle with a worm, in a bright water eſpecially; but then his rod muſt be very light and pliant, and very true and finely made, which with a skilful hand will do wonders, and in a clear ſtream is undoubtedly the beſt way of angling for a Trout, or Grayling with a worm, by many degrees, that any man can make choice of, and of moſt eaſe and delight to the Angler. To which let me add, that if the Angler be of a conſtitution that will ſuffer him to wade, and will ſlip into the tail of a ſhallow ſtream, to the Calf of the leg or the knee, and ſo keep off the bank, he ſhall almoſt take what fiſh he pleaſes.

The ſecond way of angling at the bottom is with a Cork or float; and that is alſo of two ſorts.

With a worm:
or,
With a Grub or Caddis.

With a worm you are to have your line within a foot, or a foot and half as long as your rod, in a dark water with two, or if you will

will with three; but in a clear water never with above one hair next the hook, and two or three for four or five lengths above it, and a worm of what ſize you pleaſe, your plums fitted to your Cork, your Cork to the condition of the River (that is to the ſwiftneſs or ſlowneſs of it) and both, when the water is very clear, as fine as you can, and then you are never to bait with above one of the leſſer ſort of Brandlings; or, if they are very little ones indeed, you may then bait with two after the manner before directed.

When you angle for a Trout, you are to do it as deep, that is, as near the bottom as you can, provided your bait do not drag, or if it do, a Trout will ſometimes take it in that poſture: if for a Grayling, you are then to fiſh further from the bottom, he being a fiſh that uſually ſwims nearer to the middle of the water, and lyes alwaies looſe: or however is more apt to riſe than a Trout, and more inclin'd to riſe than to deſcend even to a Ground-bait.

With a Grub or Caddis, you are to angle with the ſame length of Line; or if it be all out as long as your Rod, 'tis not the worſe, with never above on hair for two or three lengths next the hook, and with the ſmalleſt Cork, or float, and the leaſt weight of plumb you can that will but ſink, and that the ſwiftneſs

neſs of your ſtream will allow; which alſo you may help, and avoid the violence of the Current, by angling in the returnes of a ſtream, or the Eddies betwixt two ſtreams, which alſo are the moſt likely places wherein to kill a Fiſh in a ſtream, either at the top or bottom.

Of Grubs for a Grayling, the Aſh-Grub, which is plump, milk-white, bent round from head to tail, and exceeding tender with a red head; or the Dock worm, or Grub of a pale yellow, longer, lanker, and tougher than the other, with rows of feet all down his belly, and a red head alſo are the beſt, I ſay for a Grayling, becauſe, although a Trout will take both theſe (the Aſh-Grub eſpecially) yet he does not do it ſo freely as the other, and I have uſually taken ten Graylings for one Trout with that bait, though if a Trout come, I have obſerved, that he is commonly a very good one.

Theſe baits we uſually keep in Bran, in which an Aſh-Grub commonly grows tougher, and will better endure baiting, though he is yet ſo tender, that it will be neceſſary to warp in a piece of a ſtiff hair with your arming, leaving it ſtanding out about a ſtraw breadth at the head of your hook, ſo as to keep the Grub either from ſlipping totally off when baited, or at leaſt down to the point of the hook, by which means

means your arming will be left wholly naked and bare, which is neither so sightly, nor so likely to be taken; though to help that (which will however very oft fall out) I always arm the hook I design for this Bait with the whitest horse-hair I can chuse, which it self will resemble, and shine like that bait, and consequently will do more good, or less harm than an arming of any other colour. These Grubs are to be baited thus, the hook is to be put in under the head or Chaps of the bait, and guided down the middle of the belly without suffering it to peep out by the way (for then (the Ash-Grub especially) will issue out water and milk, till nothing but the skin shall remain, and the bend of the hook will appear black through it) till the point of your hook come so low, that the head of your bait may rest, and stick upon the hair that stands out to hold it, by which means it can neither slip of it self; neither will the force of the stream, nor quick pulling out, upon any mistake, strip it off.

Now the Caddis, or Cod-bait (which is a sure killing bait, and for the most part, by much, surer, than either of the other) may be put upon the Hook, two or three together, and is sometimes (to very great effect) joyn'd to a worm, and sometimes to an Artificial Flie to cover the point of the Hook; but is always to be Angled with at the bottom (when by it self

espe-

eſpecially) with the fineſt Tackle; and is for all times of the year, the moſt holding bait of all other whatever, both for Trout, and Grayling.

There are ſeveral other baits beſides theſe few I have nam'd you, which alſo do very great execution at the bottom, and ſome that are peculiar to certain Countries, and Rivers, of which every Angler may in his own place, make his own obſervation: and ſome others that I do not think fit to put you in mind of, becauſe I would not corrupt you, and would have you, as in all things elſe I obſerve you to be a very honeſt Gentleman, a fair Angler. And ſo much for the ſecond ſort of Angling for a Trout at the bottom.

Viat. But Sir, I beſeech you give me leave to ask you one queſtion, Is there no art to be us'd to worms, to make them allure the Fiſh, and in a manner compel them to bite at the bait.

Piſc. Not that I know of; or did I know any ſuch ſecret, I would not uſe it my ſelf, and therefore would not teach it you. Though I will not deny to you, that in my younger days, I have made tryal of Oyl of Oſpray, Oyl of Ivy, Camphire, Aſſa-fætida, juice of Nettles, and ſeveral other devices that I was taught by ſeveral Anglers I met with, but could never find any advantage by them; and can ſcarce believe

there is any thing to be done that way, though I muſt tell you I have ſeen ſome men, who I thought went to work no more artificially than I, and have yet with the ſame kind of worms I had, in my own ſight taken five, and ſometimes ten for one. But we'l let that buſineſs alone if you pleaſe; and becauſe we have time enough, and that I would deliver you from the trouble of any more Lectures, I will, if you pleaſe, proceed to the laſt way of angling for a Trout or Grayling, which is in the middle; after which I ſhall have no more to trouble you with.

Viat. 'Tis no trouble, *Sir*, but the greateſt ſatisfaction that can be, and I attend you.

CHAP.

CHAP. XII.

PISC. Angling in the middle then for a Trout or Grayling is of two ſorts.

With a Pink or Minnow for a Trout:

or,

With a Worm, Grub or Caddis for a Grayling.

For the firſt, it is with a Minnow half a foot, or a foot within the *Superficies* of the water, and as to the reſt that concerns this ſort of angling, I ſhall wholly refer you to Mr. *Walton*'s direction, who is undoubtedly the beſt Angler with a Minnow in *England*; only in plain truth I do not approve of thoſe baits he keeps in ſalt, unleſs where the Living ones are not poſſibly to be had (though I know he frequently kills with them, and peradventure more, than with any other, nay I have ſeen him refuſe a living one for one of them) and much leſs of his artificial one; for though we do it with a counterfeit flie, me thinks it ſhould hardly be expected, that a man ſhould deceive a fiſh with a counterfeit fiſh. Which having ſaid, I

ſhall only add, and that out of my own experience, that I do believe a Bull-head, with his Guill-fins cut off (at ſome times of the year eſpecially) to be a much better bait for a Trout, than a Minnow, and a Loach much better than that, to prove which I ſhall only tell you that I have much oftner taken Trouts with a Bull-head or a Loach in their Throats (for there a Trout has queſtionleſs his firſt digeſtion) than a Minnow; and that one day eſpecially, having Angled a good part of the day with a Minnow, and that in as hopeful a day, and as fit a water, as could be wiſht for that purpoſe, without raiſing any one Fiſh; I at laſt fell to't with the worm, and with that took fourteen in a very ſhort ſpace, amongſt all which, there was not to my remembrance, ſo much as one, that had not a Loach or two, and ſome of them three, four, five, and ſix Loaches, in his throat and ſtomach; from whence I concluded, that had I Angled with that bait, I had made a notable days work of't.

But after all, there is a better way of Angling with a Minnow, than perhaps is fit either to teach or to practice; to which I ſhall only add, that a Grayling will certainly riſe at, and ſometimes take a Minnow, though it will be hard to be believ'd by any one, who ſhall conſider the littleneſs of that Fiſhes mouth, very unfit to take ſo great a bait: but is affirm'd by many,

many, that he will ſometimes do it, and I my ſelf know it to be true, for though I never took a Grayling ſo, yet a Man of mine once did, and within ſo few paces of me, that I am as certain of it, as I can be of any thing I did not ſee, and (which made it appear the more ſtrange) the Grayling was not above eleven inches long.

I muſt here alſo beg leave of your Maſter, and mine, not to controvert, but to tell him, that I cannot conſent to his way of throwing in his Rod to an overgrown Trout, and afterwards recovering his Fiſh with his Tackle. For though I am ſatisfied he has ſometimes done it, becauſe he ſays ſo; yet I have found it quite otherwiſe, and though I have taken with the Angle, I may ſafely ſay, ſome thouſands of Trouts in my life, my top never ſnapt, though my Line ſtill continued faſt to the remaining part of my Rod (by ſome lengths of Line curl'd round about my top, and there faſtned with waxt ſilk, againſt ſuch an accident) nor my hand never ſlackt, or ſlipt by any other chance, but I almoſt always infallibly loſt my Fiſh, whether great, or little, though my Hook came home again. And I have often wondred how a Trout ſhould ſo ſuddainly diſengage himſelf from ſo great a Hook, as that we bait with a Minnow, and ſo deep bearded, as thoſe Hooks commonly are, when I have

ſeen by the forenam'd accidents, or the ſlipping of a knot in the upper part of the Line, by ſuddain, and hard ſtriking, that though the Line has immediately been recover'd, almoſt before it could be all drawn into the water, the Fiſh clear'd, and gone in a moment. And yet to juſtifie what he ſays, I have ſometimes known a Trout, having carried away a whole Line, found dead three, or four days after with the Hook faſt ſticking in him: but then it is to be ſuppos'd he had gorg'd it, which a Trout will do, if you be not too quick with him when he comes at a Minnow, as ſure and much ſooner than a Pike; and I my ſelf have alſo, once, or twice in my life, taken the ſame Fiſh with my own Flie ſticking in his Chaps, that he had taken from me the day before, by the ſlipping of a Hook in the arming: but I am very confident a Trout will not be troubled two hours with any Hook, that has ſo much as one handful of Line left behind with it, or that is not ſtruck through a bone, if it be in any part of his mouth only; nay, I do certainly know, that a Trout ſo ſoon as ever he feels himſelf prickt, if he carries away the Hook, goes immediately to the bottom, and will there root like a Hog upon the Gravel, till he either rub out, or break the Hook in the middle. And ſo much for this firſt ſort of Angling in the middle for a Trout.

The

The ſecond way of Angling in the middle, is with a Worm, Grub, Caddis, or any other Ground-bait for a Grayling, and that is vvith a Cork, and a foot from the bottom, a Grayling taking it much better there, than at the bottom, as has been ſaid before; and this always in a clear water, and with the fineſt Tackle.

To which we may alſo, and vvith very good reaſon, add the third way of Angling by hand with a Ground-bait, as a third way of Fiſhing in the middle, which is common to both Trout, and Grayling, and (as I ſaid before) the beſt way of Angling with a Worm, of all other I ever try'd whatever.

And now Sir, I have ſaid all I can at preſent think of concerning Angling for a Trout and Grayling; and I doubt not, have tir'd you ſufficiently: but I will give you no more trouble of this kind, whilſt you ſtay; vvhich I hope will be a good while longer.

Viat. That will not be above a day longer; but if I live till *May* come twelve Month, you are ſure of me again, either vvith my Maſter *Walton*, or without him, and in the mean time ſhall acquaint him how much you have made of me for his ſake, and I hope he loves me

well enough, to thank you for it.

Pisc. I shall be glad *Sir*, of your good Company at the time you speak of and shall be loath to part with you now; but when you tell me you must go, I will then wait upon you more Miles on your way, than I have tempted you out of it, and heartily wish you a good Journey.

FINIS.

To

To my moſt Honoured Friend, Charles Cotton, *Eſq;*

SIR,

YOU Now ſee, I have return'd you, your very pleaſant, and uſeful diſcourſe of the Art of *Flie-Fiſhing*, Printed, juſt as 'twas ſent me: for I have been ſo obedient to your deſires, as to endure all the praiſes you have ventur'd to fix upon me in it. And, when I have thankt you for them, as the effects of an undiſſembled love: then, let me tell you *Sir*, that I will really endeavour to live up to the Character you have given of me, if there were no other reaſon; yet for this alone, that you, that love me ſo well; and always think what you ſpeak, may not, for my ſake, ſuffer by a miſtake in your Judgment.

And *Sir*, I have ventur'd to fill a part of your Margin, by way of Paraphraſe, for the Readers clearer underſtanding the ſituation both of your *Fiſhing-Houſe*, and the pleaſantneſs of that you dwell in. And I have ventur'd alſo to give him a Copy of Verſes, that, you were pleas'd

pleas'd to ſend me, now ſome Years paſt; in which, he may ſee a good Picture of both; and, ſo much of your own mind too, as will make any Reader that is bleſt with a Generous Soul, to love you the better. I confeſs, that for doing this, you may juſtly Judg me too bold: if you do, I will ſay ſo too: and ſo far commute for my offence, that, though I be more than a hundred Miles from you, and in the eighty third Year of my Age, yet I will forget both, and next Month begin a Pilgrimage to beg your pardon, for, I would dye in your favour: and till then will live.

Sir,

London, *April.* 29*th.* 1676.

Your moſt affectionate

Father and Friend,

Izaak Walton.

THE RETIREMENT.

Stanzes Irreguliers TO Mr. *IZAAK WALTON.*

FArewell thou buſie World, and, may
We never meet again:
Here I can eat, and ſleep, and pray,
And do more good in one ſhort day,
Than he, who his whole Age out wears
Upon the moſt conſpicuous Theaters,
Where nought, but vanity and vice appears.

2.

Good God! how ſweet are all things here!
How beautiful the Fields appear!
How cleanly, do we feed and lye!
Lord! what good hours do we keep!
How quietly we ſleep!
What peace, what unanimity!
How innocent from the lewd faſhion,
Is all our buſineſs, all our recreation!

Oh,

3.

Oh, how happy here's our leasure!
Oh, how innocent our pleasure!
Oh, ye Valleys, Oh ye Mountains!
Oh, ye Groves, and Chrystal Fountains,
How I love at liberty,
By turns, to come and visit ye!

4.

Dear solitude, the Souls best friend,
That Man, acquainted with himself dost make,
And, all his makers wonders to intend,
With thee, I here converse at will,
And would be glad to do so still,
For, it is thou alone, that keep'st the Soul awake.

5.

How Calm, and quiet a delight,
Is it, alone
To read, and meditate, and write;
By none offended, and, offending none?
To walk, ride, sit, or sleep at ones own ease!
And, pleasing a Mans self, none other to displease.

Oh

6.

Oh my beloved Nymph fair Dove;
Princeſs of rivers, how I love
Upon thy flowry Banks to lye,
And view thy ſilver ſtream,
When guilded by a Summers beam!
And in it, all thy wanton fry
Playing at liberty:
And, with my Angle upon them
The all of treachery
I ever learnt induſtriouſly to try.

7.

Such ſtreams, Romes *yellow* Tyber *cannot ſhow,*
The Iberian Tagus *or Ligurian* Po;
The Mauſe, *the* Danube, *and the* Rhine
Are puddle water all, compar'd with thine:
And Loyres *pure ſtreams yet too polluted are*
With thine much purer to compare;
The rapid Garonne, *and the winding* Seine,
Are both too mean
Beloved Dove, *with thee*
To vie priority;
Nay, Tame *and* Iſis, *when conjoyn'd ſubmit,*
And lay their Trophies at thy ſilver feet.

8.

Oh my beloved Rocks *that rise*
To awe the Earth, and brave the Skies:
From some aspiring Mountains crown,
How dearly do I love,
Giddy with pleasure, to look down. (*above!*
And from the vales, to view the noble heights
Oh my beloved Caves! from dog-stars heat,
And all anxieties, my safe retreat:
What safety, privacy, what true delight,
In th' artificial night,
Your gloomy entrals make,
Have I taken, do I take!
How oft when grief has made me fly
To hide me from society,
Even, of my dearest friends, have I
In your recesses friendly shade;
All my sorrows open laid.
And, my most secret woes, entrusted to your privacy!

10.

Lord! would men let me alone;
What an over happy one
should I think my self to be!
Might I in this desart place
(*Which most Men in discourse disgrace*)
Live but undisturb'd and free!

Here,

Here, in this deſpis'd receſs
Would I, maugre Winters cold,
And the Summers worſt exceſs,
Try, to live out to ſixty full years old!
And, all the while
Without an envious eye,
On any thriving under fortunes ſmile,
Contented live, and then, contented dye.

C. C.

FINIS.

Courteous Reader.

YOU may be pleas'd to take notice, that at the Sign of the Three Trouts in St. *Paul's* Church-Yard, on the North ſide, you may be fitted with all ſorts of the beſt Fiſhing Tackle, by

John Margrave.